

The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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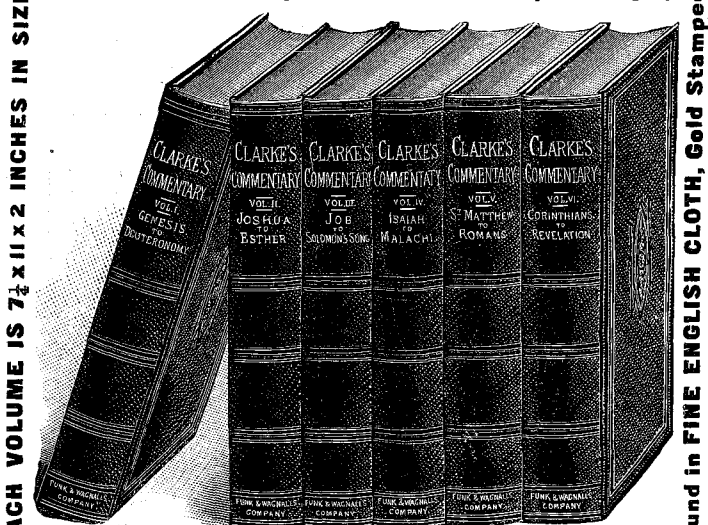
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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE INSURRECTION IN CRETE.

REVOLT against Turkish rule in the island of Crete is treated as the chief topic of the day by the press of the world. Greece promptly took up the cause of the Christian insurrectionists against the Sultan, and Prince George, who landed Grecian troops on the island (February 12), is a popular hero in the estimation of newspapers in many quarters. American journals, in general, while expecting that the great powers of Europe, interested in maintaining the *status quo* of Turkey, are likely to succeed in securing a bloodless settlement of the difficulty, express the hope that Crete may throw off the Turkish yoke, whether war ensues or not.

Briefly reviewing the situation [see foreign department of THE LITERARY DIGEST, June 27, July 11, August 1, September 5, September 19, 1896] *Harper's Weekly* says:

"Crete, 160 miles long, and lying 150 miles southeast of Athens and much nearer to the southern part of Greece, has about 300,000 inhabitants, three fourths of whom are Christians and the rest Mohammedans. The Cretans are of Grecian descent and affiliation, and the island geographically belongs to Greece. The Turks have held it since 1669. When Greece won independence in 1821 an insurrection in Crete followed, but was put down. The Cretans have ever since been uneasy, and prone to make trouble for the Turks whenever opportunity offered. The cause of the present revolt is practically the same as that of the rising last April, when the Christian governor was replaced by Turkhan Pasha, a Mussulman.

"In July the Porte agreed to appoint a Christian governor, whom it has since nominated, but still delays to inaugurate. It delays also to put into effect reforms agreed upon twenty years ago. The Cretan revolutionists demand that these reforms shall be at once enforced, and propose to secure their rights by force of arms if they can not get them otherwise. They are the aggres-

sors, and have had help from Greece, where there is an enthusiastic popular desire for the annexation of Crete. . . . If Greece and Turkey should be suffered to come to blows, Turkish troops, already being collected for the purpose, would sweep over the northern boundary of Greece into Thessaly, and war once started on European soil might lead no one knows where."

At this writing the allied powers are said to have assumed control in Crete with an Italian admiral in command of troops.



PRINCE GEORGE OF GREECE.

Greece has been warned against further aggression, but already a Turkish vessel has been fired upon, a number of Mussulmans have been taken prisoners in engagements, and Grecian reinforcements are increasing. Press despatches further affirm that the Porte has promised to hold back Turkish troops and to allow the powers to handle the affair, that Russia is mobilizing the Black Sea fleet to be in readiness for developments, and that the European powers are considering Germany's suggestion of a blockade of Piræus, the port of Athens.

Greek Policy.—"The policy of the Greek Government is to force a fight, if such a thing is possible, in order that the powers may be dragged into it, and in the inevitable rectification of boundaries Greece hopes to acquire Crete. She may be disappointed this time, as she often has been before, for there are other nations that have long had their eyes on that fair island, which is a strategic position of the first importance. It commands the Greek archipelago and the Ægean Sea, thus governing the long chain of water communications that lead into the Black Sea. Russia might like to see Greece in possession of Crete, for Greece might readily be controlled from St. Petersburg. Still better would Russia like to have the island for herself, but an overt

move on her part to seize it would call into action all the jealousy of the other great powers. Therefore Russia may readily prefer secretly to employ an agent to acting openly. England would be very glad to get hold of Crete if the time were opportune, for it would be a most important addition to her chain of control of the Mediterranean by its command of the Ægean. England may not regard the present juncture as opportune for carrying her ambition into effect, and we shall not be surprised if the powers, in their dread of 'the Eastern question' taking on a militant aspect, huddle up a peace between the Turks and the Cretans under guaranties that will stave off the coming of another crisis."—*The Transcript, Boston.*

Diplomatic Resources are Many.—"The resources of diplomacy are many, and the powers will be astute in discovering some solution of the problem before it becomes more complicated and portentous. The order of the Turkish Government for the mobilization of the fleet as soon as possible may put a new phase upon the case. The impression grows stronger and stronger that Greece has been encouraged in her attitude by some strong power, presumably Russia. No light has been thrown on this matter. European diplomacy as applied to Turkey is a tangled skein at best, and few shreds of information have come from the many conferences held respecting the Armenian question and the numerous other controversies which trouble the Sultan's tottering dominion. It would doubtless be advantageous in the long run for Turkey to give up Crete. It would be a small price to pay for the postponement of the calamities, the deserved retribution, which must sooner or later overtake the Sultan's misrule. This is the philosophy which that fatuous ruler ought to apply to the Cretan dilemma, and the persuasive arts of the powers may have convinced him that this is his best course."—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

The Chances in Conflict.—"As between Greece and Turkey, there is, of course, a big apparent disparity of power. Turkey had in 1896 a population of about 15,430,000 in Asia and 5,750,000 in Europe, and of this aggregate of over 21,000,000, nearly 15,000,000 are Mohammedans. The population of Greece is a little less than 2,200,000, about one tenth that of Turkey, and not nearly one half that of Turkey in Europe. She is taking heroic chances, therefore, and we can only hope that her magnificent beginning will not result in a disastrous ending. She has, otherwise, some advantages. Her navy is better than Turkey's, so it is said, and her finances are in better shape. Moreover, Turkey's possessions in Europe are fully as liable, when the hostilities are once fairly begun, to help Greece as to help Turkey, and the Albanians, Slavs, and Greeks who constitute the larger portion of Turkish subjects in Europe (of the 5,750,000 subjects only 2,360,000 are Mohammedans) are not likely to hesitate long about instituting revolts on their own account. In addition, the royal family of Greece is closely connected with the royal families of England, Russia, and Denmark, and the public sentiment throughout Europe will be a strong factor in her behalf. This sentiment is well expressed by Gladstone's ringing despatch last Sunday to the *London Chronicle*, in which he said: 'I do not dare to stimulate Greece when I can not help her, but I shall profoundly rejoice at her success. I hope the powers will recollect that they have their own character to redeem.'"—*The Voice, New York.*

Greeks Scarcely Fitted for Self-Government.—"The heroic Greek Prince George, so worthy of Hellenic traditions, has not a drop of Hellenic blood in his veins—his father being a Dane and his mother a Slav—but he is quite as much of a Greek as his father's subjects, who have been crossed so often with Tartars, Huns, Turks, Arabs, and the negroids of North Africa that all but the most insignificant drop of Hellenic blood has disappeared. They shrink, on analysis, not quite to the same level as the Cuban insurgent, but vastly below the ideal that Mr. Gladstone and other sentimentalists have imposed on the world. Europe

knows them well and is not to be carried away by enthusiasm for them.

"The confession of the Danish King of Greece that he countenanced this outburst of jingoism among his unruly and ungovernable subjects as an alternative of deposition is the best commentary on the whole proceeding. The United States has no reason to distend its diaphragm with enthusiastic emotion in behalf of such a cause or people. The Greek is a born pirate, with small conception of the rights of property, and he is at present engaged in an act of piracy against a power that is weakened by unpopularity. Our sympathies, rightly placed, are all in accord with European sentiment in favor of a strict maintenance of peace and principle. It is doubtful whether the Greeks are yet fitted for self-government.

"The intelligent public will place a 99.99 per cent.

discount on all 'news' from Greek sources."—*The Commercial Advertiser, New York.*

Growth of Greece Limited.—"The acquisition of Crete will be a source of prodigious self-gratulation to the little nation, one of the 'cockiest' in the world; but it will not bring Greece one atom nearer its fond dream of supremacy in the Ægean. Crete will share the fate of the Ionian islands or of the tract ceded by Turkey to Greece sixteen years ago. In the Ionian islands the roads built by the English have gone to ruin, harbors have filled up and the islands have sunk to the Greek level. After its last territorial acquisition Greece borrowed money to improve the new territory by a railroad through it, spent the money, never built the railroad, and is now running behind on the interest on the bonds. Greece may round out its boundary with part of Macedonia and gain some islands, but this is likely to be the limit of its growth."—*The Press, Philadelphia.*

Popular Prince George.—"There is no other young member of the royalty in Europe who has enlisted such admiration for natural traits of manliness and courage. It was Prince George, as every one remembers, who, by striking down a fanatical assassin, saved the life of his cousin, the present Czar, when traveling in Japan. It was George who made himself so signally popular at the late Olympian games at Athens. It is he, also, who has at various times won a strong hold upon his fellow countrymen by taking up the cause of the poor and downtrodden against even the powers of the Grecian state itself.

"That he should be the leader in this new movement to protect the unfortunate Cretans is characteristic of his nature, and adds another to the many performances which have made this active young man popular throughout the world. George is the 'happy prince' of Europe. He has the charm of his twenty-seven years, his heroic stature, his audacity, and his unaffected gallantry.



MAP OF THE SCENE OF CONFLICT.

The world will watch him with interest now that he has taken a brave, if reckless, hold of the ugliest crisis threatening the civilized nations."—*The Record, Chicago*.

"The Greeks are endeavoring to liberate their brethren in Crete from tyranny and persecution, and the European powers, with England easily first in activity and earnestness, are scheming for a perpetuation of the horrors of bloodshed and pillage, lest, in the dawn of peace and Christianity upon that now distracted island, some prestige, some caprice, some sordid plan of theirs be menaced. They are all enlightened, Christian, high-minded nations, of course. Far be it from us to challenge them on such a score. But just as they looked on complacently at the horrors in Armenia—fomented by their hypocritical professions of sympathy for the agitators—so now they are willing to contemplate like horrors in Crete rather than have disturbed the 'equilibrium' which they have ordered."—*The Post, Washington*.

"A general European war would give a great impulse to industry and trade in the United States. It would create booming prices for grain of all kinds and for provisions. United States manufacturers could furnish also much war material, including cloth for uniforms. There is rather an inhuman popular wish in the United States that a general European war may be the result of the present complications."—*The Chronicle, Chicago*.

"The United States can have no share in active intervention in behalf of Greece at present, but we know of nothing that would do more to dispel the last cloud on the friendship of the two nations than the assurance that England had cast aside selfish ambition and commercial fears to strike, and strike hard, for humanity."—*The Times-Herald, Chicago*.

A CONGRESS OF MOTHERS.

A CONGRESS of mothers held in Washington last week was a novelty in this land of national conventions. It is said to have been the outgrowth of mothers' meetings held at Chautauqua, N. Y., during the summer assemblies for numerous seasons past. The subject before the convention, as set forth in the opening address of the president, Mrs. T. W. Birney, was child-culture, comprehending an important range of allied topics. The program, therefore, included discussion of the "Mother and Child of the Primitive World," "Heredity," "Day-Nurseries," "Mothers and Schools," "The Value of Music in the Development of Character," "Physical Culture," "Reading Courses for Mothers," etc. The speakers included men and women of national and international reputation. Mrs. Grover Cleveland gave a reception to the delegates at the White House, and the attendance upon meetings proved so unexpectedly large that several meeting-places had to be provided. The organization of Mothers' clubs in all sections of the country will probably be the outgrowth of this first congress of mothers.

Philosophy and Maternal Instinct.—"A noteworthy feature of the congress is the fact that the delegates are not all mothers. Indeed, a large percentage is composed of unmarried women. These women are well known among the authoritative educators, lecturers, and writers on subjects pertaining to the training and development of children. Philosophy recognizes the obvious truth that there are mothers who are absolutely destitute of the maternal instinct, and spinsters who have an instinctive love of children and the capacity to minister to and care for them as their mothers could never have done. Nature has left the maternal instinct out in some individuals.

"Mothers acknowledge the wonderful influence of kindergartners endowed with the loftiest and most gracious attribute. The instinct of the female for its young is manifested in most women who bear children, but that is a purely animal instinct, and not comparable to that other and higher emotion which is divine in its unselfishness and tenderness. It is the love which passeth understanding, and makes it possible for its possessor to feel the compassion and the devotion which are born not merely of pity, but affection, for all children. It knows no prepossessions in favor of picturesque misery and sorrow, no prejudices against dirty and vicious childhood, but in its splendid capacity of love for humanity, young and weak, or old and weak—for what is the

human being but a kind of overgrown baby?—and in its potential force makes the race of Sisters of Charity, the Florence Nightingales, and the Clara Bartons inexhaustible."—*The Times, Brooklyn*.

Bachelor Girls Instructing Mothers.—"The paragraph writers who thoughtlessly jumped to the conclusion that the Mothers' Congress would be in the hands of mothers, and who chuckled at the idea of a woman's gathering with such prominent women left out as Miss Frances Willard, Miss [Mrs.] Anna Shaw, and Miss Susan B. Anthony, jumped heedlessly and chuckled prematurely.

"The mere fact that these and other single ladies have not entered the married state and therefore are not mothers is not a trocha of sufficient height and strength to keep them from breaking into a mothers' congress. If they are not mothers themselves they can give advice to mothers, for every parent is well aware that an unmarried aunt knows better how to bring up children than the children's own mother.

"A glance at the program of the congress of mothers reveals the names of no fewer than ten unmarried ladies, who are booked to impart wisdom to the mothers assembled at Washington. It is perfectly clear that the American bachelor girl has progressed several laps ahead of the American bachelor man. The latter can not claim equality until he organizes a fathers' congress, and delivers lectures to the American male parent on the care and education of his offspring."—*The Chronicle Telegraph, Pittsburgh*.

Scientific Motherhood.—"Mrs. Helen Gardener, of Boston, read a paper yesterday [February 18] before the mothers' convention in Washington which assumes a great deal that is not proven, and, we believe, can not be proven. She protested against the 'subserviency' of women to men as dangerous to the children born of such a union, because the children would inherit this shrinking tendency. She claimed that woman must assert her equality with men and thus endow her children with independent spirit. No subject in the whole range of scientific research is of more interest than that of heredity, but it can not be said that we have learned a great deal on the subject. . . .

"An all-wise Providence has directed that the affairs of this world should be committed to the joint direction of the two sexes. The conditions as they exist are the result of the best human experience. Perfection is not expected this side of the millennium, but that the average home is happy is beyond dispute, and that it is so is due largely to the fact that it is ruled by woman. The idea of women being tyrannized over by men in this day is a little humorous. There is nothing attainable in this world that woman can not have if she wants it. She is the mother of the race, the controlling influence in all men's lives. If she wants the ballot she can have it. If she wants anything else she has only to say so. The spirit of chivalry is not dead. We do not believe in scientific motherhood or any other kind of motherhood than that which now exists. It is to the good women all over the world that we owe what of happiness and joy there is in our lives. Women are by no means perfect. They are responsible for a great deal of the misery there is in the world, but that the great majority of them are powers for good in the world is absolutely indisputable. . . . What is wanted is not new principles or theories, but that men and women everywhere shall become better as individuals."—*The Inquirer, Philadelphia*.

"It is in this stimulation of interest among the mothers of this country that the Congress will find its justification. A neighborhood congress of mothers, or a number of such congresses, would give more direct promise of usefulness than a national congress. Many States have recognized the expertness of women upon questions of primary education by making women eligible both to vote in elections for school officers and to become such officers. The statutory recognition of their claims in this respect is simply the recognition of a fact. The very best result that can be hoped from the National Congress of Mothers is that it shall stimulate the formation of local congresses of mothers."—*The Times, New York*.

"It would be easy to treat this women's conference flippantly, and to underestimate its possible value and importance, but the women themselves seem to be in earnest, and there can be no question that their plans and purposes, as outlined in the subjects selected for discussion, are excellent ones."—*The Journal, Providence, R. I.*

THE COURSE OF THE TRUSTS.

THE trusts give the newspapers more to talk about than any other institution existing in the country. Every development in favor of the trusts or against them furnishes fresh material for discussion of the principles and interests involved. Public attention has been recently directed from the anti-trust legislation proposed in various States and the probable outcome of decisions expected from the courts, to the dissolution of the gigantic combination known as the "Steel-Rail Pool," and to an investigation of the sugar trust and similar organizations at the hands of a committee from the New York legislature of which Senator Lexow is chairman. It does not appear to be expected that the Lexow investigation will have permanent effect beyond further publicity of trust methods of carrying on business. The facts so far brought forward have substantially reached the public eye through previous investigations. The dissolution of the steel-rail pool is considered by many journals as another evidence of the innate weakness of so-called trusts. Different accounts of the reasons for its downfall have been given, including the novel explanation made by the *New York Evening Post*. That paper traces the disintegration of the pool indirectly to the death of President James B. Roberts of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who had inaugurated the policy of securing an agreement between the great railroad systems, the carriers for mills on their lines as well as the consumers of steel rails, to keep the price within certain limits. The probable economic effects of the breakdown of an organization which controlled such an enormous industry form a subject of interesting speculation.

Attempts to Obscure the Issue.—"It is the practise of all of the trusts to crush competition not by the ordinary methods of commercial rivalry, but by first acquiring control of a sufficient majority of the agencies of production and then compelling the dealers engaged in the work of distribution either to trade with them on their own terms or be cut off from the possibility of trading with them at all. It is a preposterous abuse of language to find any analogy between a trust and a great department-store. The latter is a product of the keenest competition, and exists only in virtue of its ability to meet all competitors on even terms. It sells to whom it can and buys from whom it may, and conducts both operations under conditions of absolute commercial freedom. The department store is the *bête noire* of the trust, because it finds a way to break any fixed price, and is in its whole organization and method so diametrically opposed to all the principles of monopoly as to make any fancied likeness between the two supremely ridiculous. Obvious as all this is to the most ordinary intelligence, the trusts are evidently determined to try to create the impression that the freedom of corporate association is menaced in attacking them. This is a somewhat familiar trick. It has been attempted in court every time that a monopoly, actual or potential, was on trial, and the courts have uniformly made very short work of it. . . .

"It is, on the whole, an encouraging fact that the agents and advocates of the trusts should begin to show signs of alarm about the present agitation, and should be moved to call it very hard names. The struggle must inevitably be a long one, and the end in view may be as seriously retarded by the exaggerations of those who are working for it without discretion or sufficient knowledge as by those who are frankly opposed to it. That it will be attained sooner or later is as certain as that in a free re-

public the supremacy of law must be vindicated or free institutions suffer shipwreck. The battle will be more than half won when the people see that the dangers of the trust system are social and political as much as they are commercial, and when the issue is clearly defined as one between the state and a power that arrogates superiority to the state. The economic argument against the trust system of placing fetters on trade is not more convincing than the political argument against the toleration of organizations powerful enough to defy courts and legislatures. As the court of appeals said of the sugar trust:

"It is not a sufficient answer to say that similar results may be lawfully accomplished; that an individual having the necessary wealth might have bought all these refineries, manned them with his own chosen agents, and managed them as a group at his sovereign will; for it is one thing for the State to respect the rights of ownership and protect them out of regard to the business freedom of the citizen, and quite another thing to add to that possibility a further extension of these consequences by creating artificial persons to aid in procuring such aggregations."

—*The Journal of Commerce, New York.*

Trusts Playing into Social Reformers' Hands.—"Whether the public is wise or otherwise, it is stirred up profoundly by the spectacle of the shares of a corporation producing one of the prime necessities of life kited up and down on the exchanges, and it is suspicious that the production and price to consumers of the commodity stand as but a 'side issue' and that speculation is the real object of the insiders. It is more than passing strange that men as shrewd as the framers of these big trusts should not have seen that stock-exchange manipulation is a sure way to challenge the public and to make it forget that it is not paying any more for the commodity than it did before the combine was arranged.

"If the great trusts were taken out of the stock market we should hear much less Populistic talk against capital in this country. So long as the use of 'mystery' for stock-jobbing ends is kept up, so long will public curiosity be active. The public will refuse to understand why railroad companies with hundreds of millions of capital and obligations should be compelled to spread their books open to the public and their shareholders, while wide-reaching and monopolizing trusts can keep their accounts closed to all save a privileged few. Here is where the greed of human nature plays into the hands of the social reformers who are pointing to the trusts as showing the possibilities of great combinations of industries, and the difference between the running of such combinations as it is now done primarily for the benefit of a few insiders and the administration of the same combinations as it might be if run publicly and for the real benefit of all."—*The Transcript, Boston.*

The Economic Advantage of Limited Liability.—"The trouble is that those who seek remedies, even if they are sincere, deal only in superficial expedients. No legislature can pass an effective law to curtail industrial combinations when at the same time there is nothing to prevent the formation of such combinations or to make them less profitable. So long as the law makes it more profitable to form such combinations than to conduct industries in other ways more beneficial to the people, they will be formed probably in spite of all attempts.

"A recent writer makes a point which at least shows how there is an advantage in stock combinations which no private individuals can secure. The difference is an economic one and lies deeper than is generally supposed. The business of the country in the past few years has practically settled on a basis of limited liability. When two men of means go into partnership they become liable for all they have in the world; but if, on the other hand, they form a company they become liable only to the amount of the stock they pay in, really, and they can reserve the re-



TURNING THE LE(X)OW RAYS ON THE CHIEF SUBJECT IN THE SUGAR TRUST.

THE RESULT.

—*The Journal, New York.*

remainder for any purpose they wish. If their business is profitable they can use the profits for stock in other lines. The tendency is always toward expansion.

"There was a time when the industry of the country needed the stimulation of this advantage of limited liability. But now it works as a basis principle in the formation of trusts and all industrial combinations. The small individual trader has no chance. He is subject to an economic obstacle which no law can reach when he is made liable for all he has got, while his competitors are liable for only what money they have in their business. Having found the advantages of such small companies, it was natural for different companies in the same line of business to lump their stock together for the purpose of controlling the market of a great country, or even of a greater part of the world, able to curtail production and keep prices higher than other economic conditions would warrant. Trusts must be studied from such a point of view as this and not from the shallow depth of a legislative committee."—*The Post, Hartford, Conn.*

"**Conspiracy against Capital and Character.**"—"The so-called sugar trust, a typical example of the modern idea of scientific principle applied to the prosecution of business, is made the subject of legislative inquisition. This inquisition is fashioned upon the style and procedure adopted by the leading enemies of the public welfare in the ranks of the contemporary press. It is coarse, mean, and vulgar. It appeals to the sympathies of the depraved and to the passions of the ignorant and brutal.

"It succeeds in disclosing that the so-called trust is not in any sense a trust within the letter or the spirit of the law; that it manufactures sugars cheaper than anywhere else; that it sells sugar at a lower price than it was ever sold at before; that it employs more men and pays them higher wages than ever before in the history of the sugar industry; and that it makes a great deal of money. In fact, it is an industry which is capitalized in a plain mathematical ratio to its earning capacity, and which is conducted with the strictest reference to the fundamental law of supply and demand.

"The combination of intelligence and capital which succeeds in making a commodity of universal use more cheaply and of a higher quality than any one else can make it, and which in so doing seeks and attains the ordinary and legitimate reward of all business enterprise, is denounced as a malignant and a criminal conspiracy against the public welfare.

"If allowed to proceed uninterrupted to its natural end, this assault upon character and upon property would ruin New York. All business initiative would shrivel up and disappear, and we should presently have nothing left but our position and our climate. Fortunately it can not go very far, because the forces behind it are impotent for permanent evil."—*The Sun, New York.*

Trust against Trust.—"The great steel pool, formed to keep up prices, is practically smashed. This gigantic combination of capital and power, made to control the output of one of the greatest industries of America, to run prices up or down by its simple mandate, to tax consumers at its pleasure and to the limit of expediency, is to be devoured by a combination still more gigantic, still more powerful, still more wealthy. Rockefeller and Carnegie have seized the steel industry of America. The event is epochal. The cut in the price of steel rails from \$25 to \$17 a ton, the lowest figure at which they have ever been sold, marks an era in the country's economy.

"So far it is a case of trust eat trust, and the railroads, the consumers, are the gainers. . . . It is safe to say neither Mr. Rockefeller nor Mr. Carnegie has been led into their great enterprise by any considerations of sentiment for the public. They saw a chance to crush competitors and they took advantage of it. They now own the most remarkable source of supply in the world, an iron field, not a mine. The Mesaba range, above Duluth, is described as a region where it is not necessary to delve at vast expense, but merely to scoop the ore off the surface. Rockefeller has strengthened his advantage in securing this source of supply by building a fleet of barges of immense capacity to carry his raw material to the docks of Lake Erie. When he completed his cycle by the alliance with Carnegie, with his furnaces and mills, he had the Railmakers' Association at his mercy. The whole affair has been carried out by a masterly combining of existing facilities. The present result, at least, is a benefit to great numbers of people. Whether Messrs. Rockefeller and Carnegie, hav-

ing gotten this vast power into their hands, will be content to reap reasonable profits and let the public benefit, or will, once having crushed their opponents, use this power for ruthless extortion, is a grave problem. The fact that they have the power is a menace in itself."—*The Commercial Journal, Chicago.*

Hard Winter for Trusts and Workingmen.—"It has been a particularly hard winter upon the trusts in the metal trades. The nail combination was the first to go, after it had taken millions of dollars from the pockets of consumers by more than doubling the price of an article of daily use. The billet pool next succumbed, and was closely followed by the combination of makers of structural material, altho the members of the latter organization managed to patch up their differences after the market had remained an open one for a few weeks. The pool of the ore-producers of the Lake Superior region is tottering, and must go down as a result of the strong alliance of the Rockefeller-Carnegie interests. While the consumer is benefited by the return to normal trade conditions which follow the collapse of these trusts, there is the sad feature to be considered that the workingmen in these various industries will be compelled to assume a large part of the lowered prices in reduced wages in order that these manufacturers may continue to make big profits on their products."—*The Record, Philadelphia.*

"Indeed, a reduction of iron-miners' wages has already been announced. The cheapening of the price of steel rails for the benefit of railway corporations and of structural steel for the benefit of the projectors of big building enterprises at the cost of the labor employed in the iron and steel industries can not be regarded in the light of a public benefit. But the smashing of the trust can not be lamented on that ground, for if the pooling arrangement had been maintained it probably would eventually have resulted in the loss of employment by thousands of steelworkers and a cut in wages besides, for the promoters of the trust were in no sense inclined to share with the iron and steel workers the benefits of the trust agreement. The trust was formed for the purpose of making the business of manufacturing steel more profitable. That was all."—*The Leader, Cleveland, Ohio.*

A Lesson in Trusts.—"Steel rails have dropped in price from \$26 to \$17 a ton within five days. The unholy combination which made the former price has gone to smash, and contracts large enough to lay 3,000 miles of track have been made with the Eastern iron companies since Monday morning. The money to be expended in this new work is no less than \$3,750,000, and it means employment for more than three thousand additional millworkers for at least a year. This is a true picture of the disaster which must inevitably come to every trust which attempts to set at naught the irresistible laws of supply and demand and to raise prices above the level which invites competition. No Lexow committee, no socialistic ranting, no blatant tirades against the stifling of enterprise conducted to this result. It is just the natural working of the law of trade, as inexorable as any other natural law, with penalties of violation as inevitable as death. It would be as sensible to attempt to annul the law of gravitation as to attempt to set aside the certainty that any power can destroy competition in any line of business and maintain excessive profits."—*The Journal, Jersey City.*

NEW IMMIGRATION LAW.

BOTH Houses of Congress have passed a bill providing for an educational test of immigrants. If President Cleveland approves it, the new law will take effect July 1, 1897.

As adopted the bill, in brief, adds to the classes of excluded aliens all persons over sixteen years of age who can not read and write the English language or some other language—except that admissible immigrants may bring with them or send for illiterate parents or grandparents (over fifty years old), wives and minor children. It also prohibits from employment on public works aliens who come regularly or habitually into the United States for the purpose of engaging in any mechanical trade or manual labor, and who have not made declaration of intention to become American citizens. The Secretary of the Treasury, however, may permit the entrance of aliens for the purpose of teaching new arts or industries. The act is not to apply to persons coming here from Cuba during the continuance of the present disorders there.

Immigrants who will be Shut Out.—"Taking first the countries that send us the most immigrants, statistics show that out of 57,515, over 14 years of age, coming from Italy during the last

fiscal year, 31,374 could neither read nor write; out of 57,053 from Austria-Hungary, 23,773; out of 35,198 from Russia proper, 12,816. These three countries, then, will be greatly affected by the new law. On the other hand, out of 25,334 from Germany, over 14 years of age, all but 750 could both read and write; out of 7,818 from Norway, all but 93; out of 18,824 from Sweden, all but 219; out of 37,496 from Ireland, all but 2,626; out of 15,622 from England, all but 850. Thus all those countries would not be materially affected. The contrast, however, between these two sets of countries is greater than we have just presented, for the reason that there must be added to Austria-Hungary's list 1,730 persons who can not write; to Russia's, 1,667; to Italy's, 25. Since the new law requires both reading and writing, these figures will swell the numbers of those who under it, last year, would have been excluded as illiterate.

"If we pass to the countries that send us fewer immigrants, we find that out of 2,067, over 14 years of age, from Portugal, no fewer than 1,589 could neither read nor write; out of 517 from Poland, 230; out of 140 from European Turkey, 44. In contrast with these figures we have out of 2,022 from Switzerland, over 14 years of age, only 16 unable both to read and write, and out of 2,729 from Denmark, only 26.

"Looking at the percentages of those who can not both read and write, we find that last year the new bill would have excluded from Switzerland and from Denmark not one person in a hundred, over 14 years old, these countries leading the education record among immigrants with percentages of only .79 and .95 of illiteracy. Sweden and Norway follow close upon them with only 1.16 and 1.18.

"The next group is headed by Germany, with 2.96, a good showing for an immigration so great, altho, as has been seen, decidedly beaten by Scandinavia, on a still larger immigration. The figures of the Netherlands are 4.16; of France, 4.88; of England, 5.44; of Scotland, 5.70. Above 10 per cent. we find Finland, 11.82; Wales, 12.54; Belgium, 14.46; Spain, 15.81. Roumania raises the rate to 21.03, and Greece to 26.21, while Turkey in Europe follows the latter with 31.43.

"Continuing among nations of the greatest illiteracy, we have Russia proper, with 41.14, and Poland, with 47.78. Austria must be subdivided, Bohemia and Moravia having only 11.45, whereas Galicia and Bukovina reach the enormous percentage of 60.37, the remainder of Austria being credited with 36.38 and Hungary with 46.51. Italy puts in a solid 54.59 per cent. of illiteracy, while Portugal surpasses all rivals with 77.69 of immigrants last year unable both to read and write."—*The Sun, New York*.

Doors Might be Wholly Closed.—"Under conditions which confront this country now; when there are standing idle men by the hundreds of thousands, in numbers more than sufficient to fill every position which may be offered when every now idle factory in the country once more starts up its fires; when the reports from all of our great cities are of thousands of families suffering from want of food and of shelter; it would seem that the sentiment of 'universal brotherhood' could be profitably, and at no great loss to the finer sensibilities, toned down to a more acute, if narrower, feeling for our own suffering countrymen. It might, indeed, be the part of true patriotism and true humanity to close the doors of this country entirely to every immigrant until such time as every man within the borders of the country who was honestly willing to work could have work at his hand to do."—*The Post-Intelligencer, Seattle, Wash.*

Not Wholly Satisfactory.—"This test of literacy is unsatisfactory and is admitted to be so by the advocates of the bill. It does not touch necessarily the really dangerous classes. It will exclude many worthy and industrious persons whose presence would be a help rather than a hurt to the country. But it seemed to be the only test possible to apply, and will in fact hit most hardly the less desirable classes—those now coming from southern and eastern Europe.

"A most important section of the bill is this:

Section 4. That it shall hereafter be unlawful for any male alien who has not in good faith made his declaration before the proper court of his intention to become a citizen of the United States to be employed on any public works of the United States, or to come regularly or habitually into the United States, or to come regularly or habitually into the United States by land or water for the purpose of engaging in any mechanical trade or manual labor for wages or salary, returning from time to time to a foreign country.

This is aimed of course at the Canadians living along the border who daily or yearly cross the line, as at Detroit and along the New England boundary, to work in the mills of the United States. It will also compel thousands of Canadians in southern New England to declare intentions of citizenship or hereafter stay at home. Holyoke, Chicopee, Fall River, Manchester, Lowell, and other manufacturing cities have great numbers of this class who are not citizens, and who go and come to and from Canada periodically. That this section will invite retaliatory legislation from Canada is probable, and in the case of the far Northwest, where Americans cross the line to work in the mines of British Columbia, such legislation would hurt."—*The Republican, Springfield*.

DIVORCE REFORM.

ATTEMPTS to reach the alleged evils of divorce proceedings in this country have revived press discussion of the subject. May improvement be expected through uniform state legislation, through moral crusades, or through decisions of the courts? are questions receiving attention.

Uniform state legislation is being sought by the National Divorce Reform League by means of commissions on uniform legislation, which now exist in twenty-nine States and one Territory. The secretary of the league, Rev. Samuel W. Dike, Auburndale, Mass., reports that the last annual conference was so busy with consideration of uniform commercial legislation that full consideration of marriage and divorce was postponed until the next meeting. Nevertheless, the commissions make the following recommendations:

"That some ceremony, formality, written evidence, signed by the parties and attested by one or more witnesses, be required in all marriages; that in so-called common-law marriages this evidence be filed in an appropriate office within ninety days, and a failure to do so be made a misdemeanor, and if this be not done, or the marriage be not subsequently ratified, then neither party shall have any right or interest in the property of the other; that stringent provision be made for the immediate record of all marriages; and that the age of consent to marriage should be raised to eighteen for the male and fifteen for the female.

"They also renew their former recommendation of a strict law providing that no divorce be granted unless the defendant be domiciled, at the time the cause of the action arose, in the State where the divorce is to be granted, or have been served with process within that State, or shall have voluntarily appeared in such action. They further recommend the liberty of remarriage to both parties to the action after a divorce."

The secretary adds that "many will regret the last recommendation, tho it may have seemed necessary to concede the point for the sake of uniformity in other things." So far as the Territories are concerned the law of May 25, 1896, enacts that:

"No divorce shall be granted in any Territory for any cause unless the party applying for divorce shall have resided continuously in the Territory for one year next preceding the application."

"If one or two States which are still below this moderate standard of the commissioners would adopt this statute," comments the secretary, "one great occasion of scandal would be removed. Migrations for divorce, now probably growing less each year, would be removed. Of course, other lax statutes, and especially administration under them, and even under laws fairly good in themselves, need attention."

National Convention Suggested.—"A national divorce law can not be secured, and if uniformity is secured it must be secured by concerted action on the part of the States. This may be accomplished by a commission made up from representatives of each State agreeing upon a bill and having that bill enacted into law by the different state legislatures. This plan is practical. *The World-Herald* urges that Nebraska appoint three commissioners, who will serve without pay, to correspond with the governors of other States and secure a national convention for the purpose of drafting a uniform divorce bill. This convention should be held in Nebraska, because Nebraska made the first move, and it should be held in Omaha during the trans-Mississippi exposition.

"The varying divorce laws in the different States are rapidly bringing about a social degeneracy. The marriage and divorce laws are too loosely drawn in a great many States, and the result is a social condition foreign to the civilization of the nineteenth century. Senator Graham's resolution is aimed at a growing evil, but the senator ought to amend it, and we believe he would do well to amend it on the lines herein suggested."—*The World-Herald, Omaha, Nebr.*

Bishop Shanley's Crusade.—"The iniquity seems to have reached its greatest growth of abomination in North Dakota, which State during these later years has been the Mecca of loose moralists the world over. The reason why protest has not been more effective in the cure of this widespread abuse—this crime against society and civilization—is because the attack had too much of generalization in it; too little specific application in the

methods pursued. Bishop Shanley, however, goes at the work of reform in the most practical shape. He has gathered his evidence, his convincing array of incontestable facts and proofs, right in the home of the divorce industry, and spread them before the people of his State in such manner that his speech is a mirror in which his hearers may see the likeness of themselves truly pictured to their abundant shame and disgrace. He has shown them that the money drawn to the State by the attraction of its divorce facilities is nothing less than the wages of sin, befouling the hands of all who touch its filthiness, and a blight and a curse upon the progress and prosperity of the people. If they have never before awakened to a realizing sense of the need of reform for the salvation of their homes and the preservation of Christian civilization, the citizens of North Dakota, and of other States as well, have no such excuse for inaction after hearing the stern indictment which Bishop Shanley has brought in against the modern immorality which masquerades among us under the guise of divorce law."—*The Northwestern Chronicle, St Paul, Minn.*

The Validity of Divorces.—"We hope that the Supreme Court of the United States, when the question comes before it for decision, may hold that divorces obtained in 'foreign' States are not valid. The matter grows out of the New York decision in what is known as the MacGowan case. In that case it was held that neither the wife nor the husband can acquire residence in another State for the purpose of obtaining a divorce. If that decision is sustained it will mean quite a revolution in divorce methods. We hope it is good law, for it is certainly good morals. During the past few years the pilgrimages of those seeking divorces to the Dakotas, to Oklahoma, and other sparsely settled States and Territories where laws are lax and inducements are actually held out to those desiring legal separations, have amounted to a public scandal which has spread even beyond this country. It has seemed hopeless to appeal to the pride of a people like those in Oklahoma. We hope that an appeal to the Supreme Court will end the matter along the lines laid down in the MacGowan case. The husbands who have raised a fund to prosecute this matter may be simply acting from motives of revenge, but their contributions may result in great public good as well as in the discomfiture of wives who have journeyed to Dakota in order to contract another marriage. Such a decision from the Supreme Court would be much more effective than any mere uniform divorce laws."—*The State Register, Des Moines, Iowa.*

"Mormonism" in New York Society.—"Bishop Doane, of the Albany diocese of the Episcopal Church, . . . according to *The Herald*, advocated the passage of the bill [to punish adultery as a crime] on the ground that in 'the present condition of New York society it is an easy matter for a man to get a divorce from his wife by collusion with her, and be left free to marry again.' Referring to the proselyting mission of a Mormon elder, he said that 'it is quite unnecessary for the elder to go to New York city to advocate Mormonism, for it exists there to an alarming extent.'

"The New York society to which Bishop Doane refers, we assume, is the society of fashion, in which unquestionably divorces and the remarriage of the divorced have been frequent during recent years and have been justified, or at least tolerated by its sentiment. This 'condition of New York society' exists, too, in face of the fact that the law of this State allows full divorce for the one cause of adultery alone, tho usually the divorced and remarried men and women to whom he refers secure their divorces for other and minor causes, simply going to other States to get them. Moreover, the canon of the Episcopal Church forbids divorce for any cause except adultery, and allows remarriage to the innocent party only; yet this society is made up almost wholly of Episcopalians.

"The Episcopal Church itself, however, practically nullifies this canonical prohibition in a supplementary law giving the bishop power to go behind the record in a divorce case to determine for himself whether the cause alleged in the civil court be the true cause or be some other collusively urged for the sake of avoiding the scandal which would result from pleading the true cause. For instance, even in a divorce obtained on the ground of simple desertion, the bishop, as we understand it, is now empowered by the canon to determine for himself if the actual offense was not the prime breach of the matrimonial relations required by the Episcopal Church. . . . At any rate, this canonical power allowing bishops to go behind the civil record practically clothes them with the authority to grant indulgences in such cases according to

their own judgment merely. The movement for a change in the Episcopal canons relating to marriage and divorce, which is now going on, gets its impetus largely, we believe, from a well-founded objection to such an unwarranted extension of Episcopal authority.

"How the proposed law advocated by Bishop Doane could correct the practical 'Mormonism' he denounces we do not see. It makes adultery punishable by a fine of from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and imprisonment for one year to five years; but generally the divorces of which he complains are not obtained for adultery under the laws of this State. . . . Men and women go to other States to get divorces for desertion, incompatibility, or what not, and when they come back to that society with new wives and husbands, it receives them without disapproval. How will the severe punishment of adultery as a crime tend to prevent that 'condition of New York society'?"—*The Sun, New York.*

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.

THE United States Commissioner of Labor, Carroll D. Wright, has completed an investigation which throws light upon the employment of women in the industries of the country. A comparison is made between the "present period," 1895-96, and a "former period" at least ten years previous. Returns were obtained from a little over one thousand establishments in thirty different States, altho but 931 establishments made full reports. The figures show a very considerable increase of the number of women employed, and there are instructive comparisons of the wages of men, women, and children.

Important parts of a summary of the report and some editorial comments upon the employment of women are appended:

"These 931 establishments employed 64,560 persons in the former and 108,648 in the present period. Of this number, in the first period, 26,479 were males of eighteen years of age or over, as against 43,195 in the second; and 4,175 males under eighteen years of age, as against 7,540 in the second. In the first period 27,163 were females eighteen years of age or over, and 6,743 females under eighteen years of age, as against 45,162 and 12,751, respectively, in the present period. From these figures it is seen that male employees eighteen years of age or over increased in the present period over the former period 63.1 per cent., while female employees of the same age period increased 66.3 per cent. Male employees under eighteen years of age increased 80.6 per cent., while female employees under eighteen years of age increased 98.1 per cent.

"As collateral information, an interesting showing is made of the figures of the censuses of 1870, 1880, and 1890 concerning the employment of women. From tables given in the report, it is seen that the proportion of females ten years of age and over employed in all occupations in the United States rose in its relation to the whole number employed from 14.68 per cent. in 1870 to 17.22 per cent. in 1890, while males decreased in proportion from 85.32 per cent. in 1870 to 82.78 per cent. in 1890, corroborating fully the facts obtained in the investigation of the department. . . .

"For the present period, out of an aggregate of 79,921 women, 70,921, or 88.7 per cent., were single, 6,775, or 8.5 per cent. married, 2,011, or 2.9 per cent. divorced, and 244, or three-tenths of 1 per cent., unknown.

"In 436 of the establishments canvassed, the agents were able to secure data as to the relative efficiency of women and children and of men working at the same occupations. These data are confined wholly to the present period and represent the best judgment of the best-informed officials of each establishment. From this information a table is compiled showing the number of instances in which men, women, or children working at the same occupation and declared to be of the same grade of efficiency obtain different wages. Of 782 instances in which men and women work at the same occupation and perform their work with the same degree of efficiency, men receive greater pay in 595, or 76.1 per cent., of the instances, and women receive greater pay in 129, or 16.5 per cent., while in 58 instances, or 7.4 per cent., they receive the same pay for the same work. The men receive 50.1 per cent. greater pay than the women in the 595 instances in which they are given greater pay, while the women receive but 10.3 per cent. greater pay in the 129 instances in which they are paid higher wages. Out of the 228 instances in which men and children (persons under eighteen years of age) work at the same occupation with a like degree of efficiency, men receive greater pay in 182, or 79.8 per cent., of the instances, and children receive greater pay in 24, or 10.5 per cent., while in 22 instances, or 9.7 per cent., they receive the same pay for the same work, performed with the same degree of efficiency. The men receive 57.7 per cent. greater pay than the children in the 182 instances

in which they are paid more, while the children receive but 8.6 per cent. greater pay in the 24 instances in which they are paid higher wages."

Reasons for Employing Women.—"The main reason given [in the report] for the employment of women and girls is usually that they are better adapted for the work at which they are employed. Other reasons are that they are 'more reliable, more easily controlled, cheaper, more temperate, more easily procurable, neater, more rapid, more industrious, less liable to strike, learn more rapidly,' etc. On the other hand, the reasons for the opinion given by those who did not believe that there was any tendency for the employment of women to increase in their industries, were that very often women who are better adapted and cheaper are unreliable, that their physical strength is inadequate for heavy work, and that machinery is gradually displacing them.

"This is undoubtedly true in the industries in this State where women and men are employed, especially on machinery. The labor of women is profitable while it lasts. They often, however, do work calculated for men and do it better, but they do not generally possess the endurance of men and eventually break down under the severe strain of factory employment. It is not encouraging that they are gaining on the men, for their employment at occupations in factories does not enhance their health nor train them for a domestic life which nature destined them to fill."—*The News, New Haven, Conn.*

Woman's Advance.—"Women are to-day engaged in almost every professional employment [table given shows for 1870, 92,257 women in professions against 311,687 in 1890]. As lawyers, physicians, civil engineers, musicians, actors, and authors, they have not only shown their ability to cope with men, but, in numerous instances, they have risen to the very highest round of the professional ladder. But what progress has the sex achieved in commercial and industrial lines?

"This question is easily answered. In 1870 there were 19,828 women in the United States who earned their living as stenographers, clerks, bookkeepers, cashiers, telegraph-operators, and so forth; but to-day, through such developments of modern progress as the telephone and the typewriter, there are no less than 250,000 women employed in the various departments of trade and commerce. In mechanical and manufacturing pursuits, the progress of the sex is equally as manifest. Without multiplying figures, there are five times as many women bookbinders to-day as there were in 1870; four times as many boot- and shoemakers; and seven times as many employed in box-making. Between 1870 and 1890 over 400,000 names were added to the list of milliners in this country. In 1870 there was not a single woman engaged in the manufacture of lace, according to the census of that year, while in 1890 there were 4,435. In 1890 there were 2,000 women employed in the pottery business, 16,000 in shirt-making establishments, 25,000 in silk manufacturing, and 28,000 in tobacco industries. Altogether, the progress made by women between the years 1870 and 1890 in mechanical and industrial lines shows a net gain of nearly 800,000 occupations. So far as government positions are concerned, there is not a single department of the service in which women are not found, except in the army and navy.

"From the figures above cited it is evident that the fair sex is yearly becoming more independent and self-sustaining. Nor can it be said that our veneration for the womanhood of the country is less than it was some fifty years ago. On the contrary, it has deepened, if such a thing is possible, with the courageous efforts which the sex has made for its advancement."—*The Constitution, Atlanta.*

DR. NOBEL'S PRIZE FOR PEACE.

FIFTH among the enormous prizes to be awarded yearly by the bequest of the Swedish chemist, Dr. Alfred Nobel, each of which, it is estimated, will be fully \$50,000, is one to be given to him who during the year shall have done most to promote universal peace. *The Spectator*, London, January 9, indulges in some interesting speculation with regard to this prize. It says:

"We do not suppose the prize will be awarded to the Czar of Russia, to the Swiss President if he happens to arbitrate, or to any diplomatist. Dr. Nobel clearly meant to reward any one who should contribute an invention or an idea which will be a permanent assistance to the cause of peace; but then of whom

can that be most fairly said? Will the prize be awarded to some successful preacher of the doctrine of non-resistance; or to some one who has introduced a conscription of women, thereby developing the horror of war; or to some one who has invented a weapon of destruction so terrible that soldiers will not face it, and armies, becoming useless, will cease gradually to exist? The last was probably the thought in the mind of the testator. His immense experience in explosives may have produced in his mind an idea that his branch of physical science would ultimately extinguish war, and altho that notion has as yet no warrant from experience, we are not clear that it is wise to reject it lightly. It is quite certain that conscription, by forcing whole nations into the field, has made Europe dread war, as involving incalculable risks; and experience proves that the majority even of the best trained and bravest men will not face a certainty of destruction which will involve the whole of them. Our own sailors in the last days of wooden ships are said to have jumped overboard rather than face the new shells, and thus to have rendered the construction of ironclads a matter of pressing official concern. No army would defy without balloons foes who from manageable balloons were raining down dynamite shells; and soldiers as determined as the Austrians did not at all feel their courage increased by the fact that their adversaries at Sadowa were armed with rifles before which their own were hardly more useful than bows and arrows. It is quite possible if an asphyxiating shell were discovered which destroyed whole brigades at once, that private soldiers would refuse to fight, and if they did there exists no power on earth which could compel them. We shall be very curious to hear what the Distributing Board does with the prize to be awarded under the fifth clause, and shall rather expect to see that its result is a great increase in the courage or foolhardiness—call it which you like—with which chemists, Anarchists, and makers of projectiles will deal with the fulminates which are known to exist, but have never yet been brought under even partial control."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

TOM WATSON sums up Bryan's "first battle" with the words "Fused, fought, and fizzled," and tells the whole story.—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

If the Greeks bearing gifts were to be feared, as the old adage said they were, what is to be said when they bear the latest improved repeating-rifles?—*The Chronicle, Chicago.*

THE Jonah story is too good to be discredited. The Democratic Party is on the point of getting rid of the biggest Jonah it has had since its foundation.—*The Constitution, Atlanta.*

THE African Methodist Episcopal Church will provide the Bible upon which President McKinley will be sworn into office; but disappointed office-seekers a few months hence will need no Bible to swear on.—*The Age (Afro-American), New York.*

THERE is a popular notion that money can save a man from the penalty of his crime. But there was a man hanged in Missouri yesterday for murder and he was a millionaire. His money could not save him. All honor to Missouri.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

KING GEORGE takes a perfectly natural and excusable view of the requirements of his occupation when he says he would rather die in battle at the head of his troops than to be run into exile by enraged subjects whose feelings and aspirations he had failed to represent. His position is not very different from that of a manager who feels that he must satisfy the stockholders to keep his job.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

GEOGRAPHIC.

"WILLIAM," said the teacher, "can you tell me anything about the shape of the earth?"

"Only what my father found out in the newspaper."

"What is that?"

"He says it's in mighty bad shape just at present."—*The Star, Washington.*



MCKINLEY: "For heaven's sake, Mark, patch up the machine somehow. We can't postpone this thing again."—*The Republican, Denver.*

LETTERS AND ART.

WAGNERISM BEFORE THE DAYS OF WAGNER.

WASHINGTON Q. ADAMS announces a "discovery." It is, in a word, that Wagner was not the originator of Wagnerism; that most of the innovations credited to him were invented long before he was born, and were not "made in Germany," but in England. Mr. Adams, who states that he is a native-born American musician, writes for *The American Art Journal*, and this is what he says:

"The music of the old-fashioned melodramas is filled with Wagnerisms, and personally I have no doubt that it was from these English melodramas that Wagner drew the inspiration for many of his eccentricities, especially his leit-motif and his descriptive music; and I am equally certain that these melodramas paved the way for our acceptance of this master's oddities. This species of play is out of fashion, the lyric drama has taken its place; but I am old enough to have pleasant recollections of Wagnerisms before the era of Wagner worship. If the reader will turn to one of Thomas Holcroft's plays called the 'Tale of Mystery,' he will see Wagnerism in full force in the stage directions. At the very opening of this play there is 'music to express discontent and alarm.' When *Stephano* enters with his fowling-piece there is 'hunting music,' when *Stephano* and *Selina* indulge in noisy conversation there is 'music to express chattering contentment.' When *Montano* enters 'music plays alarmingly, but piano'; then, when he says 'I beg your pardon, but—' the 'music loud and discordant' at the moment the eye of *Montano* catches the figure of *Romaldi*; at which *Montano* starts with terror and indignation. He then assumes the eye and attitude of menace, which *Romaldi* returns. The music ceases. When *Montano* exit hurriedly there is 'hurrying music, half piano'; when *Bonamo* exit with looks of suspicion there is 'music of doubt and terror'; when *Romano* shakes his fist there is 'threatening music.'

"And what is the following direction but Wagnerism in full blast? 'The stage dark; soft music, but expressing first pain and alarm; then the successive feelings of the scene.' The music ceases for a moment, but when *Selina* whispers to *Francisco*, 'Your life is in danger,' 'music continues tremendous!' Then it ceases again; but when *Romaldi* asks: 'Fool! why are you here?' 'music of terror, confusion, menace, command.' When *Francisco* and *Romaldi* draw their daggers in their hunger for gore, there is 'appropriate music' just as in Wagner's lyric dramas. When the gardeners are employed in their peaceful occupations, there is 'joyful music.' When *Malvoglio* presents a letter to *Bonamo* with a malignant assurance and turns away gratified by the consternation he has occasioned, the 'music expresses confusion and pain of thought.' Carefully study the following scene and compare it with the latest product of the Wagnerian genius.

"Thunder heard while the scene changes. Music. Scene, the wild, mountainous country called the Nant of Arpennaz, with pines and mossy rocks. A rude wooden bridge on a small height thrown from rock to rock; a rugged mill-stream in the background. The increasing storm of lightning, thunder, hail, and rain becomes terrible. Suitable music. Enter *Romaldi* from the rocks disguised like a peasant, with terror, pursued as it were by heaven and earth' (just as in the Wagner operas).

"*Romaldi*—"Whither fly? My hour has come! The fiends that tempted now tear me. (Dreadful thunder and music.) The heavens shoot their fires at me! Save! Spare! Oh! spare me!" (Falls on bank. Music, hail, etc., continue.) After a pause he raises his head. More fearful claps of thunder heard, and he again falls on his face. The storm gradually abates. Pause in music. A very distant voice is heard (Holla!) Music continues. He half rises, starts and runs from side to side. (Music ceases.) "It is the place of blood! a robbed and wretched brother. 'Tis his blood by which I am covered! Ay! There! There have I been driven for shelter! Under those very rocks! Cover me, earth! Cover my crimes! Cover my shame! Oh!" (Falls motionless again.) (Music of painful remorse; then

changes to the cheerful pastorate as *Michelli* is seen crossing the bridge.)

"As *Michelli* leads the wretched, conscience-smitten *Romaldi* to his house—"never shall my door be shut against the houseless wretch!"—the 'music expresses dejection'; but when *Francisco* and *Selina* cross the bridge they do so to 'cheerful music.' When *Selina* sees *Romaldi* and shrieks, there is 'music of hurry and dejection,' and the 'curtain falls to slow and solemn music.'

"I do not wish to push a comparison too far, but even opponents must agree that all this is very Wagnerian. There is the same heroic struggle against irresistible destiny, the same wedding of drama and scene-painting with music, the same sublime struggle with pain, the same grappling with a not-to-be-stifled conscience. As with Wagner each emotion in human life has its corresponding music; warriors appear to the rolling of the drum, peasant ballet-girls trip over the bridge to rustic music; the villain never appears without the ominous warning of the music characteristic of him; when the heroine appears it is always to heavenly music played pianissimo on the fiddles, and even lightning and thunder have their peculiar musical chords. Wagner exalted all this by selecting immoral legendary stories, and he gave more work to bass tubas, trumpets, drums, cymbals, trombones, and flutes; he improved, he did not create. His massive genius swallowed the English melodrama and converted it into 'Lohengrin,' 'The Flying Dutchman,' or the 'Walkyrie'; he took the funny man of English melodrama and ennobled him as a Hans Sachs, but to the philosophic and inquiring mind the English melodrama is there just the same. This is simply another example of the German mind receiving nutriment from England and then forgetting the obligation."

COVENTRY PATMORE, THE POET OF LOVE.

OF the late Coventry Patmore, Mr. Ruskin once said: "You can not read him too often or too carefully; as far as I know, he is the only living poet who always strengthens and purifies; the others sometimes darken, and nearly always depress and discourage, the imagination they deeply seize." Mrs. Alice Meynell, who edited the volume of selections from Patmore called "Poetry of Pathos and Delight," speaks of him still more rapturously as "the divinest voice of our time." *The Saturday Review*, of London, urged Patmore for the laureateship, and *The Dial*, of Chicago, thinks that after it became evident that neither



COVENTRY PATMORE.

William Morris nor Swinburne would be willing to occupy the post "there was probably no other English poet among the living so deserving of the appointment." And yet, beside such poets as Morris and Swinburne and Watson and Edwin Arnold, to say nothing of Tennyson and the Brownings, Patmore's name, at the time of his death last November, was a comparatively unknown one to the present generation on this side of the sea.

There is not much to tell about his life. He was born in 1823, in Woodford, England, the son of a well-known editor. His full baptismal name was Coventry Kearsy Deighton Patmore. He published his first volume of poems at the age of twenty-one, and three years later became assistant librarian in the British Museum, where he remained for twenty years. After leaving the Museum he settled at Hastings, where he purchased a large estate,

built a Catholic church, and remained until his death. His best known work, "The Angel in the House," first appeared in 1854, was revised and enlarged repeatedly, and not until 1878 did it assume its final form. His next best known work, "The Unknown Eros," developed in somewhat the same way, the "Odes" out of which it grew being issued in private form in 1868, and "The Unknown Eros" appearing twenty years later.

The following descriptive touch of Patmore is given by *The Westminster Gazette*:

"Visitors to him sometimes felt as in the presence of a contemporary of Dante, Calderon, or of the Troubadours, not of a nineteenth-century gentleman. Of gigantic statue, attenuated, erect, that singular form, clad in black velvet, and medieval head, seldom passed unnoticed in a crowd. Partly, perhaps, on such account, the good folks of Hastings keenly regretted his departure. From his beautiful Georgian house in the old town, the poet, as we have said, migrated a year or two ago to one equally beautiful over against the Isle of Wight, an ideal residence for one of his turn of mind. There, surrounded by gracious home influences, the poet spent his last days in happiness and peace. He had, it is to be hoped, a Boswell at hand to jot down his brilliant table-talk. You had only to start him with a suggestive question, and his remarks ran on in unbroken stream. He was an inimitable story-teller, and as excellent a listener to the clever things of others. Curiously enough, it was in the modern novel that Coventry Patmore found literary recreation. 'I could name a hundred novels, each perfect in its way,' he said, 'as perfect of its kind as "Paradise Lost."'"

From many reviews of his work, we select the following, one by *The Dial*, one by Edmund Gosse, and one by Mrs. Meynell. First *The Dial's*:

"The enjoyment of Patmore's work, altho very deep when once attained to, is to a certain extent the result of an acquired taste. It takes some effort and some power of penetration to discern the whole subtlety of his thought and the whole beauty of his imagination. He is, too, very uneven, and the reader who at the start chances upon certain pages in which baldness and triviality seem to reign supreme may well be repelled from further examination and too hastily conclude that the poet has no message for his ear. Suppose, for example, that the following lines first arrest the reader's eye:

'While thus I grieved, and kissed her glove,
My man brought in her note to say,
Papa had bid her send his love,
And would I dine with them next day?'

One might, indeed, have a good excuse for thinking the writer of such verse undeserving of any further attention. But let him persevere, and his reward will not be long delayed. He will soon come across such a passage as this:

'And round her happy footsteps blow
The authentic airs of Paradise,'

and the whole question will be settled. No one but a true poet could possibly have written those verses, or these:

'The heartless and intolerable
Indignity of "earth to earth,"'

or these called 'The Spirit's Epochs':

'Not in the crisis of events
Of compass'd hopes, or fears fulfill'd,
Or acts of gravest consequence,
Are life's delight and depth revealed.
The day of days was not the day
That went before, or was postponed;
The night Death took our lamp away
Was not the night on which we groan'd.
I drew my bride, beneath the moon,
Across my threshold; happy hour!
But, ah, the walk that afternoon
We saw the water-flags in flower!'

"The essential purposes of Coventry Patmore find expression in his own verse, in this prayer, for example:

'Thou Primal Love, who grantest wings
And voices to the woodland birds,
Grant me the power of saying things
Too simple and too sweet for words,'

and in the aim thus set forth:

'Elated oft by such free songs
I think with utterance free to raise
That hymn for which the whole world longs
A worthy hymn in woman's praise,
A hymn bright-noted like a bird's,
Arousing these song-sleepy times
With rhapsodies of perfect words
Ruled by returning kiss of rimes,'

That he has done both of these things is beyond dispute. 'The Angel in the House' sings the praise of woman in just such 'hymn bright-noted like a bird's,' and almost every page of his work gives evidence of his gift for expressing 'things too simple and too sweet for words.'

'For even an hour
To hold possession of the height
Of nameless pathos and delight'

is a power granted to but few poets in as marked a degree as to Coventry Patmore, and there are few more exquisite pleasures than to stand in spirit upon this very height of which he holds possession. The air is so tenuous that breath is difficult for one unaccustomed to the medium, but there is a sense of calm and spiritual freedom unattainable upon any lower level, and amply rewarding the effort of the climber."

The review by Mr. Gosse we take from the *The St. James's Gazette*:

"These, then, are the two main divisions of Coventry Patmore's work—'The Angel in the House,' with its concomitant volumes, excessively popular for qualities which were merely accidental; 'The Unknown Eros,' with certain later cognate pieces, absolutely repudiated for years, on account of qualities, also mainly accidental, which were those of excessive austerity and dignity. But what criticism has since discovered, and will be obliged to dwell upon more minutely, is that these two kinds of poetry, apparently so unlike, were really one; that 'The Unknown Eros' was no less the pattern of earthly love than 'The Angel in the House' of heavenly love; that each section was interpenetrated with the same extraordinary and elevated passion. The Patmore who walked with Honoria on the sands, and he who from gulfs of cloud, fuming with starlight, proclaimed 'the fount perpetual of virginity,' were one and the same, transfigured by the identical and unique vision of Love with blue and fiery wings, terrene and yet celestial. That is Patmore's gift to the world. He was a man of astonishing unirradiation. In an age which delights in having all its facets flashing at once, he lived in a single beam of intellectual emotion. He made the psychology of love the study of his life; he wrote slowly, very carefully, very seldom, and always in order that he might note down the phenomena of his solitary theme. The love of Man for God, the love of Woman for Man—this is the interwoven texture of all his writings. He treated it with audacities worthy of St. John of the Cross, with subtle tenderness, with fire, with a prophet's turmoil, with a child's simplicity. But the theme was always the same, and Patmore will live in English verse forever, as the poet *par excellence* of love, and of nothing but love, yet of love equally human and divine."

Mrs. Meynell, writing in *The Athenæum*, speaks of the fire of life as made sensible to us by warmth, not by flame, and proceeds as follows:

"That life, which is the further flower of art, is in almost all the poetry of the poet who has now left us. There are intervals in 'The Angel in the House,' but these are only such as the narrative form renders necessary, when that narrative is perilously ordinary and familiar. . . . And how does it befall that any reader should pause upon the mere intervals of poetry so profound and penetrating as, in a hundred passages, shakes the trivial meter with a hand of control? Such a passage is the rehearsal of a wife's death which the self-chastising fancy of the happy lover makes in May:

'The innocent sweet face that owes
None of its innocence to death;
The lips that used to laugh; the knell
That bade the world beware of mirth;
The heartless and intolerable
Indignity of 'earth to earth.'"

Other such passages are these records of beauty :

'Her eyes incredulously bright,
And all her happy beauty blown
Beneath the beams of my delight.'

'So much simplicity of mind
In such a pomp of loveliness!'

'Eyes that softly lodge the light.'

And elsewhere are words that touch the heart so close as these :

'His only love, and she is wed!
His fondness comes about his heart
As milk comes when the babe is dead.'

And again :

'Alone, alone with sky and sea
And her, the third simplicity.'

"None the less, it is needless to say, the lovely art of 'The Angel' is no more than a prelude to the art of the 'Odes.' From the beginning, Coventry Patmore's poetry had been the poetry of living intention, which rebukes all poetry that is in any degree, and whether carelessly or stealthily, the poetry of habit. And in 'The Unknown Eros' his intention, single, separate, strikes unique strokes against which the reader's human heart is all unarmed by custom. It is their mastery, and not violence, that so comes home, dividing soul and spirit. There is not a violence in the world that does not seem a dissipation and an essential weakness when reproached by such a majestic energy, able to hold its hand."

WILLIAM WINTER'S TRIBUTE TO "IAN MACLAREN."

MR. WILLIAM WINTER introduced "Ian Maclaren" to his first American audience, at the Lotos Club dinner, and we find his address published in full in a local paper on Staten Island (*The Staten Islander*), where Mr. Winter resides. He spoke in part as follows :

"There are two principles of art, or canons of criticism, call them what you will, to which my allegiance is irrevocably plighted—that it is always best to show to mankind the things which are to be emulated, rather than the things which are to be shunned, and since the moral element, whether as morality or immorality, is present in all things, perpetually obvious, and always able to take care of itself, that no work of art should have an avowed moral. Those principles are conspicuously illustrated in the writings of Dr. Watson. Without didacticism they teach, and without effort they charm. Their strength is elemental; their stroke is no less swift than sure, like the scimitar of Saladin, which, with one sudden waft of the strong and skilful hand, could shear in twain the scarf of silk or the cushion of down. Dr. Watson has himself told you that 'we can not analyze a spiritual fact.' We all know that the spirit of his art is noble, and that its influence is tender and sweet. We all know that it has, again and again, suddenly, and at the same instant, brought the smile to our lips and the tears into our eyes. I can not designate its secret. I suppose it to be the same inaccessible charm of truth that hallows the simple words of the dying Lear :

'Pray you undo this button: thank you, sir;'

the same ineffable pathos that is in the death speech of Brutus :

'Night hangs upon mine eyes; my bones would rest,
That have but labor'd to attain this hour;'

"I remember that magic touch, in some of the poems of Richard Henry Stoddard, and in many of the stories—the matchless American stories—of Bret Harte. I recognize it in the sad talk of poor old *Bows*, the fiddler, when, in the night upon the bridge at Chatteris, he speaks to the infatuated *Pendennis* about the heartless and brainless actress to whom they both are devoted, and drops the stump of his cigar into the dark water below. I feel it in that solemn moment when, as the tolling-bell of the Charterhouse chapel calls him for the last time to prayer, the finest gentleman in all fiction answers to his name and stands in the presence of the Master; and I say that there is but one step from the death-bed of Colonel Newcombe to the death-bed of William Maclure.

"Through all that is finest and most precious in literature, like 'the King's yarn' through the old cables of the British navy, runs that lovely note of poetry and pathos. So, from age to age,

the never-dying torch of genius is passed from hand to hand. When Robert Burns died, in 1796, it might have been thought that the authentic voice of poetry had been hushed forever; but even then a boy was playing on the banks of the Dee whose song of passion and of grief would one day convulse the world; and the name of him was Byron. In that year of fatality, 1832, when Crabbe and Scott and Goethe died, and when the observer could not but remember that Keats and Shelley and Byron were also gone, it might again have been thought that genius had taken its final flight to heaven; but even then, among the pleasant plains of Lincolnshire, the young Tennyson was ripening for the glory that was to come. And now, when we look around us and see in England such writers as Blackmore, Thomas Hardy, and Rudyard Kipling, and in Scotland such writers as John Watson and Barrie, and William Black and Crockett, I think that we may feel, much as we reverence the genius of Dickens and Thackeray and George Eliot, and much as we deplore their loss, that the time of acute mourning for those great leaders has come to an end."

EMERSON'S PROTEST AGAINST DEMOCRACY.

IN the same article in which he tells of Emerson's attack upon Webster (see LITERARY DIGEST, February 20) John Jay Chapman analyzes Emerson's powers in general, as poet, philosopher, orator, in a way that has rarely been equaled. As the first part of the article (*Atlantic Monthly*, February) pertained to Emerson's relations to the reformers, especially the Abolitionists, of his day, so the latter part pertains to his relation to democracy. Between the two parts are many nuggets of criticism, a few of which, tho they have no direct bearing on our title, we can not forbear from gathering. Here are specimens :

"Everything in the world which must be felt with a glow in the breast, in order to be understood, was to him [Emerson] dead-letter. Art was a name to him; music was a name to him; love was a name to him. His essay on Love is a nice compilation of compliments and elegant phrases ending up with some icy morality. It seems very well fitted for a gift-book or an old-fashioned lady's annual."

"This perpetual splitting up of love into two species, one of which is condemned, but admitted to be useful, is it not degrading? There is in Emerson's theory of the relation between the sexes neither good sense, nor manly feeling, nor sound psychology. It is founded on none of these things. It is a pure piece of dogmatism, and reminds us that he was bred to the priesthood."

"It is the irony of fate that his admirers should be more than usually sensitive about his fame. This prophet who desired not to have followers, lest he too should become a cult and a convention, and whose main thesis throughout life was that piety is a crime, has been calmly canonized and embalmed in amber by the very forces he braved. He is become a tradition and a sacred relic. You must speak of him under your breath, and you may not laugh near his shrine."

"The fault with Emerson is that he stops in the ante-chamber of poetry. He is content if he has brought us to the hypnotic point. His prologue and overture are excellent, but where is the argument? Where is the substantial artistic content that shall feed our souls?"

"It is no mere epigram to say that his poetry is governed by the ordinary laws of prose-writing, and his prose by the laws of poetry."

We come now to that phase of the subject which gives title to this article. After quoting Wendell Phillips on the tendency of equality and freedom in political forms to make the individual lose his identity in the mass and to make of us "a mass of cowards" instead of "a mass of individuals," Mr. Chapman proceeds as follows :

"If we take a bird's-eye view of our history, we shall find that this constant element of democratic pressure has always been so strong a factor in molding the character of our citizens, that there is less difference than we could wish to see between the types of citizenship produced before the war and after the war."

"Much of what Emerson wrote about the United States in 1850 is true of the United States to-day. It would be hard to find a civilized people who are more timid, more cowed in spirit, more illiberal, than we. It is easy to-day for the educated man who has read Bryce and De Tocqueville to account for the mediocrity of American literature. The merit of Emerson was that he felt the atmospheric pressure without knowing its reason. He felt he was a cabined, cribbed, confined creature, altho every man about him was celebrating liberty and democracy, and every day was Fourth of July. He taxes language to its limits in order to express his revolt. He says that no man should write except what he has discovered in the process of satisfying his own curiosity, and that every man will write well in proportion as he has contempt for the public. . . .

"The deep truth shadowed forth by Emerson when he said that 'all the American geniuses lacked nerve and dagger' was illustrated by our best scholar. Lowell had the soul of the Yankee, but in his habits of writing he continued English tradition. His literary essays are full of charm. The Commemoration Ode is the high-water mark of the attempt to do the impossible. It is a fine thing, but it is imitative and secondary. It has paid the inheritance tax. Twice, however, at a crisis of pressure, Lowell assumed his real self under the guise of a *nom de plume*; and with his own hand he rescued a language, a type, a whole era of civilization from oblivion. Here gleams the dagger and here is Lowell revealed. His limitations as a poet, his too much wit, his too much morality, his mixture of shrewdness and religion, are seen to be the very elements of power. The novelty of the 'Biglow Papers' is as wonderful as their world-old naturalness. They take rank with greatness, and they were the strongest political tracts of their time. They imitate nothing; they are real.

"Emerson himself was the only man of his times who consistently and utterly expressed himself, never measuring himself for a moment with the ideals of others, never troubling himself for a moment with what literature was or how literature should be created. The other men of his epoch, and among whom he lived, believed that literature was a very desirable article, a thing you could create if you were only smart enough. But Emerson had no literary ambition. He cared nothing for *belles-lettres*. The consequence is that he stands above his age like a colossus. While he lived his figure could be seen from Europe towering like Atlas over the culture of the United States.

"Great men are not always like wax which their age imprints. They are often the mere negation and opposite of their age. They give it the lie. They become by revolt the very essence of all the age is not, and that part of the spirit which is suppressed in ten thousand breasts gets lodged, isolated, and breaks into utterance in one. Through Emerson spoke the fractional spirits of multitude. He had not time, he had not energy left over to understand himself; he was a mouthpiece.

"If a soul be taken and crushed by democracy till it utter a cry, that cry will be Emerson. The region of thought he lived in, the figures of speech he uses, are of an intellectual plane so high that the circumstances which produced them may be forgotten; they are indifferent. The Constitution, slavery, the war itself, are seen as mere circumstances. They did not confuse him while he lived; they are not necessary to support his work now that it is finished. Hence comes it that Emerson is one of the world's voices. He was heard afar off. His foreign influence might deserve a chapter by itself. Conservatism is not confined to this country. It is the very basis of all government. The bolts Emerson forged, his thought, his wit, his perception, are not provincial. They were found to carry inspiration to England and Germany. Many of the important men of the last half-century owe him a debt. It is not yet possible to give any account of his influence abroad, because the memoirs which will show it are only beginning to be published. We shall have them in due time; for Emerson was an outcome of the world's progress. His appearance marks the turning-point in the history of that enthusiasm for pure democracy which has tinged the political thought of the world for the past one hundred and fifty years. . . . By showing the identity in essence of all tyranny, and by bringing back the attention of political thinkers to its starting-point, the value of human character, he has advanced the political thought of the world by one step. He has pointed out for us in this country to what end our efforts must be bent."

Book Reviews and Book-Reviewers.—The guardians of one of the smaller libraries in England have issued a manifesto against the book-reviewers, accusing them of log-rolling and denying that they help the public in the least to discriminate good books from bad. Thereupon a symposium! Hall Caine says log-rolling never sold a thousand copies of any book. Crockett thinks nine tenths of the reviewing is carefully done. Maclaren says the critics rarely afford the author any help. Max Pemberton thinks there is a good deal of log-rolling, but the ultimate result is of little moment. David Christie Murray expresses himself the most strongly, as follows:

"Criticism in the lump is hopelessly incompetent or incurably dishonest. The fact that there are many most capable and most honorable men and women engaged in criticism is fully present to my mind. But when these are weighed against the venal, the incapable, the hysteric, and the feeble overfriendly, they kick the beam. There are journals whose sole *raison d'être* is that they offer flagrant and shameless advertisement to the wares of their proprietors. They carry weight with the public, and their judgment has made reputations. The shame of criticism used to be in the stupidity of cruelty. It derided Wordsworth and Keats and Tennyson. It declared when the 'Christmas Carol' was printed that Mr. Dickens would not increase his reputation by this flimsy little volume. It did many monumental things in that line. Nowadays the pendulum has taken its swing, and if we are in search of 'men of genius,' why, 'every week—nay, day—brings forth a new one.' Five living gentlemen have 'rivalled or surpassed Sir Walter' and uncounted 'masterpieces' perish miserably (in spite of laudatory howlings) in a year. Perhaps a score of journals offer a real aid to judgment. Hundreds more are quite outside the sphere of sordid influences, but are manned by people who follow the lead of the critical smasher, whose business it is to make false coin pass for true."

Falstaff's Dying Words.—Mr. Locke Richardson's interpretation of Falstaff's words, when "a babble of green fields," as a reference to the twenty-third Psalm ("He maketh me to lie down in green pastures," etc.) is scouted by Dr. Furnivall, who thinks "green fields" is a misprint for green grounds, as in heraldry. But Dr. Furnivall, it is said, is the only scholar who scouts the new interpretation. Professor Dowden thinks the change from pastures to fields quite in Mistress Quickly's style; Andrew Lang calls the interpretation "pleasing and ingenious"; George Riddle thinks it supported by internal evidence; Charles Dudley Warner thinks it will be gladly accepted; Hamilton W. Mabie thinks it has transformed the total impression of Falstaff's character; Professor Wendell, of Harvard, and Alexander Melville Bell think it the correct interpretation; and Mr. Gladstone calls it "highly ingenious and fairly probable."

NOTES.

"WHAT a singular calmness seems to reign in Yankee blood!" remarks *The Saturday Review*, in speaking not about the Monroe doctrine but about Mr. Howells's "Idylls in Drab." "In no European literature would it be possible to depict heroes of the class which is presented to us with so plausible an aspect of truth by Mr. Howells and Miss Wilkins. Renunciation is a recognized element in novels all the world over, of course, but in the novels of Europe it is a tragical element. If man or woman resists love, the resistance is a terrible thing; it scores the life, it leaves the traces of volcanic disturbance. . . . But in America, and this is the testimony of almost all the best native novels, the passions are shown to us watered down to something like indifference. A very little thing is sufficient to make Roger Burton, twenty-seven years of age, with Chloe in his arms, in her sweetness and freshness, suddenly determine to throw in his lot with the celibate Shakers."

THE first draft of Poe's poem, "The Bells," given to John Sartain, a friend of the poet, when Poe was in a wild mood and wanted money to buy a dinner, was as follows:

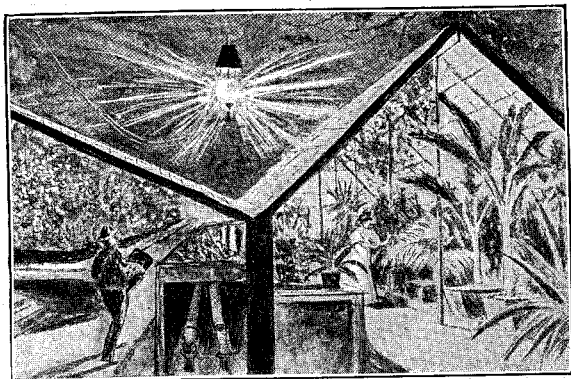
The bells, hear the bells,
The merry wedding bells,
The little silver bells,
How fairy-like a monody there swells
From the silver-tinkling cells of the bells.
The bells, ah, the bells!
The heavy iron bells,
Hear the tolling of the bells;
Hear the knells.
How horrible a monody there floats
From their throats!
From their deep-toned throats;
How I shudder at the notes
From the melancholy throats
Of the bells, of the bells!

Sartain withheld the poem from publication, and Poe elaborated it. A second time it was refused, and Poe then wrote the poem as it is now known.

SCIENCE.

GROWING VEGETABLES BY ELECTRIC LIGHT.

IN the course of an article on "Electricity in Agriculture," published in *Cassier's Magazine* (February) John McGhie tells us that considerable success has attended recent experiments in the illumination of greenhouses by night with the arc-light, thus



ELECTRIC-LIGHT GREENHOUSES.

making the plants grow by night as well as by day. Says Mr. McGhie:

"Since 1890 a series of interesting experiments have been carried on at Cornell University, at Ithaca, N. Y., and the results of the six years' work have been incorporated in an interesting report, recently published by Prof. L. H. Bailey. The earlier experiments were all made with an arc-lamp which hung inside the house, and it was found that better results were obtained when the arc was screened by an opal globe, or even by a window-glass.

"The question arose—if this screen could not be afforded with equal advantage by the glass roof itself if the light were hung above it; and if this were true, how far the beneficial effects of the light would extend, or, in other words, how much glass one light could cover. Two parallel houses were built, each divided in the middle into two compartments. These houses are 60x20 feet.

"In the valley between these houses, six feet above the nearest glass, the lamp was hung, in front of a large, blackened sheet-iron screen, which completely excluded the light from the compartment behind the lamp. By moving the screen to the other side of the lamp and rearranging certain curtains, it was possible to throw all the light into the other compartment. This change was made during the experiment. The lamp was of the ten-ampere, forty-five volt, 2,000 nominal candle-power, run from an ordinary street-lighting system, and it seldom burned after eleven o'clock, while it often ran but an hour or two, and on moonlight nights not at all.

"The lighted house was exposed to sunlight during the day, and in addition received this small and varying amount of electric-light. The other, or so-called dark, house was lighted by sun during the day and received no light at night. The lamp carried a clear glass globe, so that the light passed through two glasses—the globe and the roof—before reaching the plants. The experiments are thus summarized:

"The influence of the electric arc-light upon greenhouse plants is greatly modified by the use of a clear glass globe or the interposition of a glass roof. Plants which are much injured by a naked light may be benefited by a protected light. As a rule, plants are earlier under the electric light than when grown under ordinary conditions. Lettuce is greatly benefited by the electric light. An average of five hours of light per night hastened maturity from a week to ten days, at a distance from ten to twelve feet. Even at forty feet, in only diffused light, the effect was marked. The light appeared to injure young, newly transplanted plants. Radishes were also benefited by the light, but not to a great extent.

"When the light was hung in the house, however, whether naked or protected by a globe, radishes were injured. Beets and spinach appeared to be slightly benefited by the light. Cauliflowers, under the light, tended to grow taller than in ordinary conditions, and to make fewer and smaller heads. This corroborates results obtained with other flowers in the earlier experiments. The electric light does not appear to determine or modify the hours of growth of lettuce and some other plants which have been studied in this particular. Plants which are benefited simply grow more rapidly during the customary periods."

"Professor Bailey mentions the fact that W. W. Rawson, at Arlington, near Boston, now uses the electric light in the commercial forcing of lettuce. The house is 33x370 feet, covering nearly one third of an acre. Along the north side of this house are three 2,000 candle-power lamps which are run all night.

"Mr. Rawson calculates that he receives a gain of five days on a crop of lettuce by the use of these lamps, and as he grows three crops during the winter, the total gain is over two weeks of time. The gain from one crop is estimated to pay the cost of running the lights all winter. The effect of the light is said to be marked at the distance of 100 feet. Professor Bailey concludes: 'I am convinced that the electric light can be used to advantage in the forcing of some plants.'"

X RAYS AND THEIR RELATIVES.

NOTHING in connection with Professor Röntgen's discovery is more remarkable than the rapidly succeeding discoveries of rays from other sources that have similar properties. The recent increase of the family of which the Röntgen radiation is only one member is thus noted by *Merck's Report*, New York:

"There are now at least six kinds of new rays before the public, assuming the X rays to be one kind only. First come the cathode rays, existing inside an exhausted bulb placed in the path of an electric discharge, and demonstrated long ago by Crookes, Hit-torf, and others. Then we have Lenard's rays, which are cathode rays that have escaped from a bulb by means of an aluminum window. These rays are sensitive to magnetic action, and can be deflected by a magnet. They will also act on a photographic plate through many opaque substances. Röntgen rays exist in combination with Lenard's rays, but are not deflectable by a magnet, and possess more pronounced powers of 'photographing the invisible.' The *rayons uraniques* or phosphorescent rays discovered by H. Becquerel are given off by uranium and its salts, and are also capable of acting on a photographic plate. These rays were independently discovered by Prof. Sylvanus P. Thompson, and differ from Röntgen rays, as they can be both refracted and polarized. Then come the glowworm's rays, which have recently been shown by Dawson Turner and by a Japanese investigator to have a faint photographic action through aluminum and through copper. Finally, there are the rays emitted by phosphorus, which will penetrate black paper, but not aluminum. There are still possibilities of other undiscovered rays existing within the compass of the Crookes tube, Professor Thompson having shown that during the course of exhausting a bulb, before the Röntgen rays make their appearance, some other rays appear which differ from the cathode or Lenard rays, inasmuch as they are electrostatically as well as magnetically sensitive."

In this summary no mention is made of the "dark light" of Gustave Le Bon, which he asserts is generated by ordinary light passing through metal plates; but this is now generally believed to be mythical, other experimenters not having been able to repeat his work. The author of the above extract concludes that in future "work on rays is likely to be common," in illustration of which we quote the following from the Cincinnati *Enquirer*:

"Photographs taken without the direct rays of the sun, or without the X rays, or any electric apparatus whatever, are something entirely new. This has been done by Mr. H. M. Redd, city engineer, in some experiments he has been making. He first exposed some common granulated white sugar to the sun for two hours. Then, on an ordinary photographer's plate, in an ordi-

nary frame, he placed several coins. Over this he placed a white oak board an inch thick. On this he spread a layer of the sugar, one eighth of an inch thick. He covered half of the surface with a book, to see if any difference would be made in the sides of the plate. The whole was placed in an ordinary room for forty-eight hours. The plate was then developed and a negative printed. The center coin, an old-fashioned copper, was reproduced perfectly, head, stars, and date, in exact detail and very plainly. The other coins were fainter."

We are told by *The Enquirer* that Mr. Redd is unable to account for these results, but in view of the well-known phosphorescent properties of sugar, and the fact, noted above, that many—perhaps all—phosphorescent substances give off the Becquerel or similar rays, there should be no difficulty in explaining them.

IS STAR-STREWN SPACE INFINITE?

IN an article under this heading in *Popular Astronomy* (February) Agnes M. Clerke, the eminent English writer on astronomical subjects, tells her readers that the consensus of modern scientific opinion answers this question in the negative, in spite of the popular ideas that the stars extend to infinity in all directions. She says:

"The Milky Way is made up of a finite number of star-collections, each of finite dimensions; while the remainder of the sky, instead of being veiled with shining orbs, thick-set in endless backward files, shows a clear background sprinkled with stars, the proportionate numbers of which diminish rapidly with penetration into the ethereal abysses. It may be added that the local peculiarities and differences of stellar distribution, especially when they are regarded in connection with certain corresponding facts of nebular distribution, are utterly inexplicable by any kind of light absorption or light extinction. The star-depths, as Sir John Herschel distinctly perceived, are open, but, beyond a certain point, empty.

"In actual fact, an infinite universe would be a chaos, not a cosmos. Undisciplined by measure, the physical forces would run riot in it. It could have no structure, no parts, no intelligible plan. To our puny investigations, it would present the blank aspect of an eternally insoluble enigma. What is unbounded is inaccessible to research. But what in reality do we see in the heavens? Evidences everywhere in order of the subordination of parts to a whole, of development under controlling law, of marvelous, if sometimes inscrutable design. The stars and nebulae form together a stupendous system, framed on lines dimly significant of an origin, and progressive relations. But a system can not be infinite—not, at any rate, in a sense intelligible to the human intellect. . . .

"Both observation and rational inference indeed, while setting no bounds to the display of creative energy, enforce belief in a terminated sidereal world; only a certain *horror vacui* in the human mind shrinks back from the void beyond, and evokes imaginary stellar populates to inhabit imaginary wildernesses. For empty space is a phantom. Space is a relation, not a thing. It is like a collapsible bag. Because of its contents, it bulks large. Remove them, and it sinks into negligibility."

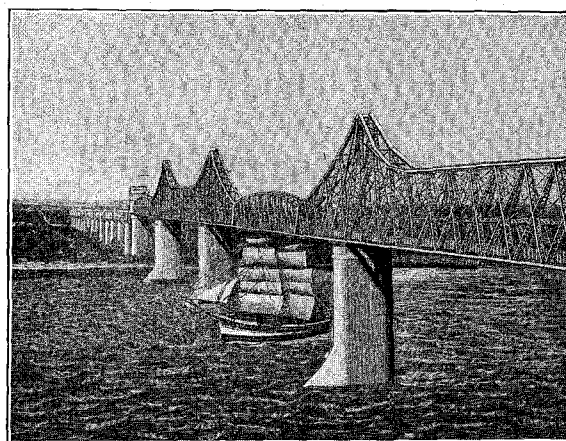
Earth-Currents.—Observations on earth-currents of electricity, made in 1893 in the plain of Sofia, Bulgaria, by Backhmetieff, are thus described by *Cosmos*, October 24: "Electrodes of amalgamated zinc immersed in a solution of zinc sulfate, contained in a vessel of porous earthenware, were buried in the ground at the depth of a yard. One of these electrodes was placed in the center of a quadrant of 80 meters [262 feet] radius, and seven others were arranged regularly about its circumference. The maximum current was directed at an angle of 35°, counting from the north toward the east. The diurnal maximum occurred at 4:30 A.M. and the minimum at 3 P.M. Several minutes after noon a slight increase of current was always observed, sudden and of short duration. The maximum difference of potential calculated for a distance of electrodes equal to one kilometer [.6 mile] was found to be .088 volt. In the cellars of the high-

school at Sofia the directions of the telluric currents were nearly the same, but the variations had smaller amplitudes. The observations by means of electrodes immersed in the water of a pond were complicated by diffusion currents of sulfate of zinc, and also by currents produced by waves and by boats in motion. As to the cause of the earth-currents in the plain of Sofia, the author attributes them to thermo-electric phenomena."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

THE LONGEST BRIDGE IN EUROPE.

WE translate from *Der Stein der Weisen* (Vienna, January) the following description of the great bridge over the Danube at Czernavoda, which ranks as the longest in Europe, reproducing also the accompanying view of it:

"The railroad-bridge over the Danube at Czernavoda, opened on September 25, 1895, with great festivities, is among the most



THE NEW RAILROAD-BRIDGE OVER THE DANUBE AT CZERNAVODA.

noteworthy engineering works of the kind in the whole world, and must be classed as the largest railroad-bridge in Europe on account of its length. The longest railroad-bridges hitherto are: the Tay bridge (10,800 feet), the Mississippi bridge at Memphis (10,700 feet), the Forth bridge (7,800 feet), the Morody bridge (4,800 feet), the bridge over the Volga at Sysran (4,700 feet). The stretch of road in which the Czernavoda bridge lies passes for 15 kilometers [9½ miles] over the flood-plain of the Danube, and the bridge has over the Borcea branch three spans of 40 feet and 11 flood-openings of 164 feet; over Balta Island there are 34 arches 141 feet wide, and finally over the Danube itself 15 spans of 200 feet, 4 of 460 feet, and the greatest of 623 feet. This makes the whole 13,441 feet, reckoning only the width of the spans and not the separating piers. The height of the roadway above the water surface is 105 feet, so that three-masted ships can pass beneath. The caissons for the foundations of the bridge were sunk 115 feet below the level of the stream. The central truss with its slender piers and the flanking cantilevers present an unusually pleasing appearance and do the builders great credit."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

IRON IN VEGETABLE FOOD.

WE recently quoted an article from *Modern Medicine*, in which it was asserted that while iron is of undoubted benefit to the human body, and is even one of its necessary constituents, we must get it, not from chemical compounds that are not assimilated by the system, but from vegetables that have taken it into their tissues from the soil and formed of it organic compounds that are prepared for human consumption. This idea has been followed out, if we may credit a Paris daily, the *Petit Journal*, by a French scientist, who has conceived the plan of feeding vegetables with iron, and so preparing them for use

as a tonic. We quote a translation that appears in *The Medical Times* (New York, February) :

"Among the innumerable ferruginous preparations of the modern pharmacopeia, some are not absorbed and consequently are of no use, while others are only assimilated at the cost of blackening the teeth, or, what is more serious, ruining the stomach. In fact, the remedy is worse than the disease.

"Hence it has occurred to M. Garbiel Viaud to get from certain alimentary vegetables the iron—necessarily assimilable—contained in their tissues. . . .

"Some vegetables contain a relatively large dose of iron. According to Boussingault, the proportion is 0.0074 of iron in 100 parts of French beans, 0.0083 in 100 parts of lentils, and spinach still more.

"The chemist Bünge has proved that spinach and yolk of egg are aliments proportionately richer in digestible and assimilable iron than all the most renowned 'martial' remedies.

"Hence it follows that a person subsisting entirely on yolk of eggs and spinach, with milk (which also contains iron) for his drink, would be internally fortified against all surprises—endowed with iron health, if I may so speak.

"M. Viaud goes still further.

"Imagining that spinach, like other vegetables and like man himself, sometimes requires a tonic, he has proposed to give it a preparatory course of iron.

"That is to say, he waters it with salts of iron, and he soaks the stalks of the freshly cut leaves in rusty water, thoroughly communicating to them in a high degree the dynamogenic and galvanic virtues ordinarily attributed to pharmaceutic preparations.

"Under the twofold forces of vegetative assimilation and of capillarity, iron, of which we may thus regulate the dose, just as we dose sugar mathematically by means of appropriate manures in the growing beet-root, fixes itself in the tissues of the vegetable and we absorb it unnoticed.

"Paradoxical as this may seem, this method is not illogical. It has, moreover, the merit of utilizing as nearly as possible the processes of nature, without changing anything in the habits or regimen of the patients."

ERRORS OF INSTINCT.

THAT instinct is not infallible, we are assured by M. A. Acloque, who gives in *La Nature* (Paris, November 14) some interesting instances of the truth of his assertion. We translate part of his article below :

"It may be stated that instinctive impulses are in some degree determined in advance for each species, and in correlation with the different acts that the individual is called upon to accomplish by reason of its own mode of life. Accordingly it is a legitimate conclusion that animals may sometimes be deceived, when the problem that they are called on to solve does not present itself under normal conditions, or when the circumstances in which they are placed are only apparently true. This is in fact what actually happens, and we believe that it will be interesting to cite several examples where instinct, thus confronted—accidentally or experimentally—with unaccustomed or artificial conditions, finds itself at fault.

"The Spegians are a tribe of wasps that make their nests in the earth and provision these nests, where they deposit their eggs, with the larvæ of other insects, particularly caterpillars, . . . or even with spiders. These wasps do not kill their victims; they are satisfied with paralyzing them. For the young larva that will issue from each of the eggs has delicate tastes, and would not be willing to feed on partially decayed flesh. Thus each victim is pierced with the sting, which finds its way to a nerve-ganglion . . . and inoculates the prey—to use the technical term—with a drop of poison endowed with anesthetic properties. This poison condemns the victim to the most absolute immobility, and it thus falls an easy prey to the newly born larva.

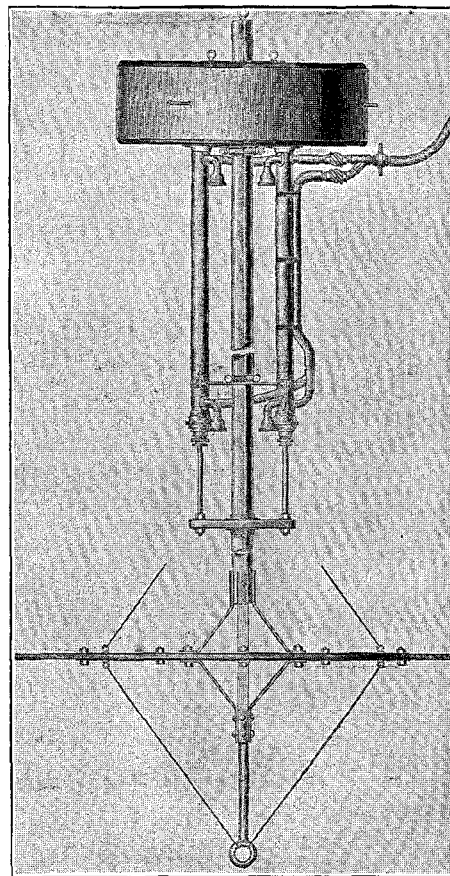
"One southern species, the yellow-winged Sphex, provisions its nests with a large cricket, which it knows how to wound in the exact spot necessary to prevent all resistance, and which it drags, not without difficulty, to its nest. This Sphex is an interesting study. When it has got its cricket to the edge of its nest, it never

fails to go into the gallery, doubtless for fear lest some intruder might profit by its work, and never brings in its prey without going through this prudent domiciliary visitation. If the cricket be removed and placed some distance away, the Sphex, after finding it, brings it anew to the opening, and repeats its inspection of its lodgings. This happens as often as the observer pleases to repeat the experiment. If now the cricket be taken away altogether, the Sphex at first shows great anxiety, turns around, and rushes here and there, not understanding the trick that has been played it. Finally, recognizing that its efforts are futile, it returns to its burrow and sets to work conscientiously to seal up the opening, as if the cricket were within. In doing thus it performs all the acts imposed on it by its instinct to assure, under normal conditions, the nourishment of its larva. Only instinct, since it did not foresee the case of an accidental intervention that should cause the prey to disappear, did not indicate any solution of the problem thus propounded by chance. And the insect, being confused, does a foolish thing."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

UTILIZATION OF WAVE-POWER.

THE ceaseless rise and fall of the great ocean waves inspires in most people a feeling of awe; in the engineer, however, it gives rise only to dissatisfaction at the utter waste of such an amount of power. Consequently he has been trying for years to devise some way to utilize it, with not very much success, the old-fashioned tide-mill representing almost the extent of profitable utilization hitherto. We quote from *Industries and Iron* (January 29) portions of an account of an apparatus devised by Morley Fletcher, an English engineer, which seems to promise better things. Says the article referred to :

"For many years past engineers have endeavored to devise a practical plan or apparatus whereby the actual power resulting from the action of waves and tides may be conserved, and the energy either utilized immediately or accumulated and stored for future usage. Granted that an efficient apparatus can be devised whereby even a tithe of the energy can be made available, it is obvious that the purposes to which it may be applied are many. In the designing of power-generators, even those utilizing the energy of falling water, it is necessary, from a commercial point of view, that their efficiency should approximate with some amount of accuracy to the theoretical value of the source of power. In the designing of wave-motors and tide-motors, however, this relative efficiency can in some measure be ignored, for the power available is so vast that the successful utilization of even a small fraction of it would create an almost entirely new set of industrial and manufacturing conditions in those districts in which tide and wave power is available."



MORLEY FLETCHER'S WAVE-MOTOR.

Of Mr. Fletcher's machine, of which we present an illustration herewith, the article says:

"The essence of Mr. Morley Fletcher's invention is the provision of a point of resistance which is fixed in relation to the up-and-down motion of the waves. This is attained by means of a submerged horizontal plane or disk, which is anchored to the sea bottom by powerful and efficient moorings, chains, bridles, etc., due provision being made for the rise and fall of tides. This plate is placed at such a depth below the surface of the water that it is entirely unaffected by the action of the waves. The motor itself consists of two parts; first, a cylindrical tube or hydrometer at right angles to and firmly secured to the upper surface of the plate alluded to, and rising a few feet above the surface of the water. And, second, a cylindrical or other shaped buoy, which floats on the waves around the tube, and which has attached to it a pump-barrel, which in its turn works round the tube immediately below the buoy. The motion of the barrel is, therefore, synchronous with the movement of the waves, both in a vertical, horizontal, or angular position. In other words, the pump-barrel moves up and down in the direction of the waves, and the fixed tube provides a piston-rod, *i.e.*, instead of the piston-rod moving in the barrel, the barrel moves up and down the piston-rod. The water pumped can, of course, be conducted by suitable means to the shore and there used and stored for hydraulic purposes, or it can be conducted on board lightships, piers, harbors, etc., and used for generating mechanical force in connection, for instance, with the generation of electricity for lighting, signaling, and other purposes. In fact, we understand that some negotiations have been made with regard to utilizing the apparatus for this purpose. The conditions of the sea and weather in no way interfere with the effective working of the apparatus.

"Not the least ingenious portion of the designing of the apparatus is the controlling-gear, which is provided to act when the sea is very rough; in addition, the buoy is so designed and placed as to be always from one half to two thirds immersed, so that the waves incidental to a rough sea will pass completely over it without in any way interfering with the efficient action of the pump or causing injury to other portions of the plant."

Of the performance of a small plant that has recently been tested in Dover harbor we are told:

"The results of the exhaustive and continued experiments then made, which were of a highly satisfactory character, fully warrant the further expenditure necessary for the construction and laying down of a much larger and more powerful plant. The Dover plant, when in full work, is capable of developing about 3.7 indicated horse-power, with a maximum stroke of 4 feet, the diameter of the floating-buoy being 4 feet, and the size of the pump-barrel only being limited by the size of the buoy."

A much larger plant is now in course of construction. "In the mean time," says *Industries and Iron*,

"apart altogether from its importance as a mechanical factor on land, the invention appears to us most valuable in regard to the safety to be derived from it with respect to navigation round seacoasts, in channels, the entrances to dangerous estuaries, and the like during foggy weather; for by fitting to the plant different apparatus for actuating and sounding fog-horns or sirens, the restless action of the sea would at once enable the navigator to ascertain his true position; a system of varied colored electric-lights, flash-lights, etc., might also be devised and fitted on the buoy in a similar manner, and worked continuously or at will, both by night and by day, regardless of the condition of the weather prevailing at the time, thus rendering collisions, strandings, and the like less frequent, and reducing the appalling loss of life and property in consequence thereof to a minimum."

Music as Medicine.—According to a correspondent of the *Boston Transcript*, January 30, music is now regularly used in the treatment of certain diseases in Munich. He says: "Owing to the fact that the Empress of Austria was treated some time ago for her neuralgia ailments, of long standing, and cured by certain strains of sound repeated at very frequent intervals, the 'music-cure' boom has grown in such strength that it has at last been deemed advisable to establish a 'music-cure' hospital in Munich, and already this institution is under way." The dis-

coverer of the "cure," Dr. Paul Rivier, says: "This 'music-cure' hospital idea is not a German delusion, very far from it. Only a very few years since the reality of hypnotism was regarded in the United States as an imposition, a fraud, but to-day Bellevue Hospital, New York, is considering with great favor the idea of introducing a chair of hypnotism; our hospital, here in Munich, already has such a chair, and in constant use. The next thing, in my opinion, which this same Bellevue Hospital will provide for will be a chair of music, tho I hardly think New York will have, at least for some time to come, a hospital devoted entirely to the 'music cure.'"

EFFECT OF COLD FEET ON THE HEALTH.

COLD feet, we are told by *The Hospital* (January 30), mean cooled blood, a lowered bodily temperature, and hence, often, pain and illness. The moral is obvious: we should at all hazards keep the feet warm. The journal named expatiates on this text as follows:

"The difference between cold feet and warm is a difference which has an important effect upon the general temperature of the body, and an equally important effect upon both health and comfort, alike in the night and in the day. The blood, propelled by the heart, circulates, as we know, throughout the whole body. If a considerable portion of the body, like the two feet, is very cold, the warm blood has to pass through a large cold area, and it becomes cooled in passing. But, in the case of cold feet, not only is the area cold, but the flow of blood, in consequence of the remoteness of the feet from the cardiac pump, is at its lowest. There is, consequently, the element of time to be considered; and when this is considered, it is perceived how very much really cold feet may lower the whole temperature of the blood, and so of the body. On the other hand, when the feet are warm, very warm, they will not lower, but actually raise, the temperature of blood, and thus make a very important difference indeed in the warmth of the whole body. Thinking of these things, one may readily see why a small degree of coldness in the feet may produce in some persons colic pains, and even diarrhoea, while a greater degree of coldness in the feet may bring about in others even a typhlitis or peritonitis. Now, it is not worth while for any of us in the present wintry season to run the risks of serious discomfort and of grave illness if we can prevent such risks. As a matter of fact we can and ought to do so both by day and by night. In these columns we have often advised the aged and those of feeble circulation to resort to a hot bottle or to wrap their feet in flannel during the hours of sleep. Our more immediate purpose at the present time is to suggest the necessity for and a means of keeping the feet warm during the day for persons who have to stand in the street, sit in ill-warmed offices, or travel by train, and so on. Snow-shoes, india-rubber snow-shoes, lined with skin or even flannel, furnish a sovereign remedy for cold feet. The writer has been surprised at the boldness with which certain aged people, gouty men, and delicate women of his acquaintance have faced the recent snowy and slushy roads when armed, or rather 'footed,' with snow-shoes. The means proposed are simple, and as scientific as simple; but the comfort and safety secured by their use can not be valued in money."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"ENVELOPES lined with tinfoil will possibly be a 'fad' in the near future, if experiments with the Röntgen ray continue," says *Paper and Press*. "It has already been demonstrated that the contents of a sealed letter, enclosed in the ordinary envelope, may be photographed. The *Gaulois*, a French paper, has photographed such private matter in fifteen seconds. By using envelopes lined with tinfoil our contemporary, *The British and Colonial Printer and Stationer*, would defy the X rays in the hands of the inquisitive."

"THE toxicity of the flesh of poisoned animals may easily prove a source of danger, and at a recent meeting of the Medical Society of Berlin, Lewin recounted some interesting experiments made to determine the toxicity of such flesh," says *The Scientific American*. "Having given 20 centigrams of strychnin to a fowl, he gave its flesh to a dog to eat. After the first 225 grams the animal became ill; after a second portion it was seized with tetanic convulsions and died. The experimenter found that some animals are very tolerant of certain poisons, for example, fowls to strychnin, goats to hemlock, partridges to arsenic, rabbits to nicotine. He considers, says *The Pharmaceutical Journal*, that altho animals may have ingested poisons without inconvenience to themselves, it may easily follow that their flesh will prove toxic to man if used as food."

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

PLYMOUTH PULPIT THEOLOGY.

IN THE LITERARY DIGEST for February 13, a review was given of the discussion aroused by Dr. Lyman Abbott's series of sermons on "The Bible as Literature," his treatment of the book of Jonah being the chief point of criticism. Since then many other religious papers have had some comment to make on this utterance from Plymouth pulpit, the general attitude being one of strong hostility. Thus *The Interior* (Presbyterian, Chicago) has this to say:

"The Congregational ministers of New York, and largely the religious press, are stirred up by Dr. Abbott's exegesis of the book of Jonah. That is only a twig of the upas. They fail to perceive that he wields a much more dangerous influence on his popular platform of agnostic evolution. He is only one exponent of a great and all-pervading system of philosophy which is winning its way in the secular and scientific press, in literature generally, and in pulpits and churches; and which spiritually paralyzes every man and every church into which it finds entrance. We confess to surprise that they should rise up in excitement over the question whether the book of Jonah is an allegory or a history, while they look on in silence, or with approval, while he attacks the heart of all religion, the existence of the supernatural. Destroy faith in God, and we need not trouble ourselves about the fate of the details of that faith. They are gone, one and all, from the least to the greatest."

The Standard (Baptist, Chicago) is no less outspoken in its condemnation of Dr. Abbott's teaching. Its criticism, however, is directed chiefly at the alleged characterization by Dr. Abbott of the book of Jonah as the "Pickwick Papers" of the Old Testament, which language he did not use.

The only expression of opinion on the subject that we have noted in the Jewish press is one of approval rather than of dissent. *The Jewish Messenger* says that the incident "shows how wide is the difference between Judaism and Christianity." "What rabbi," it asks, "would be seriously accused of heresy if he termed Job, Jonah, Daniel, books of moral fiction, not histories?" And to this *The Messenger* adds:

"Now, Judaism nowhere exacts any belief in the infallibility of the entire Scriptures. The authority of the Pentateuch, it is true, is insisted upon because on it are based national feasts and customs, but the rabbis allowed themselves much latitude in their theorizing about the books and characters of the holy writings. The modern Jewish view of the Old Testament is largely a reflex of the Jew's environment. We take our cue in many respects from the non-Jewish world, and not a few of our rabbis (perhaps more truly than they fancy) adopt Christian canons of biblical interpretation along with Christian titles and canonicals. This process has been continuous and in every age and clime. The Jew has always been too impressionable—he has followed prevalent fads with every fresh settlement, whether it be in Africa, Spain, England, Poland, or America. But he was never required to swallow the whale of Jonah, whatever the current view of the biblical sea-serpent."

The Roman Catholic journals seem inclined to the view that Dr. Abbott's alleged heresies are the natural outcome of Protestant theological teaching, and they place the blame on that rather than on the Plymouth pastor. This is the position of *The Pilot* and of *The Freeman's Journal*. Thus the latter says, with reference to Dr. Abbott:

"He is a man whose ability insures him a hearing on any subject he may elect to treat of, and who needs not to appeal to the *outré* to attract attention. He means what he says, and is therefore a good illustration of what the Protestant rule of faith—Bible and private judgment—will do when given full play on a strong, logical mind. It leads to skepticism and infidelity. According to the *New York Sun*, the Doctor has arrived at the latter point—in fact, it seriously calls him an infidel, and proves its statement

by cogent reasoning. This bad result arises from no defect in the Doctor's intellectual process. It comes from a radical error in the premises supplied to him by Protestantism. He took its dictum for granted without the slightest suspicion of its logical unsoundness, and carried it out to its results. His brethren can not condemn him without condemning themselves and their rule of faith. The difference between him and them is not one of discretion, but of degree of advance on the same line. They say 'two and two,' and he says, 'make four.'"

Several other papers take occasion to speak their mind on the general subject of Dr. Abbott's theological views. *The Journal and Messenger* (Baptist, Cincinnati) says:

"It seems to us that he [Dr. Abbott] has received about all the attention from evangelical lovers of the Bible that he ought to receive, and that Thomas Paine is as good a subject for pulpit discourse as is Lyman Abbott, D.D. Abbott has originated nothing. He has followed in the wake of other men whose writings and speeches he has had occasion to know about. Even his predecessor in Plymouth Church was setting him a good example, before he went 'over to the majority.' Just why so much should be said about the utterances of Lyman Abbott is what we can not now understand."

The Methodist Protestant (Baltimore) is equally severe in its condemnation. It says:

"We trust that this man who uses the pulpit to abuse it will never be judged by the fruits of his ministry, for in that judgment we would have grave doubts of the final issue. His sincerity we do not call in question. Was there doubt there, the notoriety that he has acquired for his attacks on the Bible would be still more misplaced than it is. A preacher's business is to not only preach the truth of God as it is in the Scriptures, but to preach it with a wise reference to the salvation of immortal souls. His method seems to be like a man who shoots his friend to rescue him from an enemy. What we want is preachers who will shoot at the enemy and save the friends—tho they are but poor sinners—for whom Christ died."

THE HIERARCHY OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

EACH year the authorities of the Roman Catholic Church in the Vatican publish a Year-Book in which the status of the church is given with great accuracy. The book is entitled "*Gerarchia Catholica*," and the issue for the present year has recently made its appearance. Its leading data are the following:

At the head of the hierarchy, of course, stands Pope Leo XIII. himself, who was born March 2, 1810. The Cardinal's College is the second in authority in the church, and should number 70 members, this having been the number determined upon by Pope Sextus V. The college is, however, rarely complete, and at the present time there are 11 vacancies. Of the 59 cardinals composing this august body, the majority now, as has been the case for centuries, is composed of Italians. This nation is represented by 32 names, while the other Catholic countries of the globe have altogether only 27. These again are distributed in the following way: 4 are from Germany, 4 from France, 4 from Spain, 4 from Austria, 2 from Hungary, 2 from Portugal, and one respectively from each of the following countries: England, Belgium, Ireland, Rumania, Australia, United States, and Canada. The next in rank in the hierarchy are the Patriarchs, of whom there are 14, namely, 8 Latins and 6 Orientals. The next dignitaries are the archbishops, of whom there are 192 in all, namely, 173 Latins and 18 Orientals. These are followed by the bishops, who now number 767, namely, 714 Latins and 53 Orientals. Then come those officials who have the rank and authority of bishops, but are stationed in non-Catholic and heathen lands, namely, 10 apostolic delegates, 136 apostolic vicars, some of whom rank as archbishops while others are only bishops, and 17 abbés.

The Berlin *Kreuzzeitung*, in commenting on this edition of the "*Gerarchia*," spoke of one of the German bishops as "Cardinal Prince-Bishop Dr. Kopp." A Catholic paper published at Paderborn corrects this title by saying that at least the "Doctor" must

be stricken out. When a Roman Catholic ecclesiastic is advanced to the cardinal's office, he must sign a document to the effect that he gives up all other titles, especially that of doctor or prelate. In fact, even secular titles, which were in the possession of a cardinal before he entered the church, are virtually abolished. Even the title "Prince" (Prince) which such men as the recently deceased Cardinal Hohenlohe, the brother of the German imperial chancellor, could claim by right of birth, is ignored.

CHARLES THE FIRST AS A MARTYR.

IN an Episcopal church in Philadelphia recently the ceremony was performed of blessing a portrait of Charles I., King of England. In this ceremony the bishops of Iowa and Delaware participated, and the following prayer was said:

"Bless, we beseech Thee, our work in setting up to Thy glory in this Thy house a likeness of Thy servant and martyr, Charles, and grant that all they that visit this temple may be moved by the sight thereof to a faithful copying of his constancy even unto death."

With reference to this incident *The Watchman* (Baptist, Boston) says:

"The Episcopal Church has sought to arrogate to itself the title of 'the American Church,' tho it is one of the smaller religious bodies in this country. It is, however, hardly possible to conceive of anything more un-American than the attempt to make Charles I. of England its patron saint. Charles I. had many admirable qualities, and the Puritan and Whig historians have by no means done full justice to them; but he also had qualities which expose men to the reprobation of their fellows. He did not scruple to lie, and he was the victim of narrow-mindedness and superstition to an extent that was remarkable even in his own time. More than this, he stood for the ideas in the sphere of civil government against which the history of the United States is a continuous protest. Charles was the implacable opponent of civil liberty in all of its forms, and he was such a devotee of the doctrine of the divine right of kings that certain phases of his career suggest that he believed that his 'divine right' gave him warrant to break faith and practise treachery. It was the revolt against Charles I. and all his works that planted the seeds of the American Revolution in the thirteen colonies. All that is most distinctive in our life antagonizes the system of government and the ideas of liberty for which Charles stood. There is no surer way for the Episcopalians to alienate the sympathy of Americans than to extend the cult of 'King Charles the Martyr.'"

The Methodist Protestant briefly reviews the history of Charles I., who adopted "severe measures against the Puritans and Presbyterians" and "was finally defeated in battle by Fairfax and Cromwell, was captured, tried, condemned, and beheaded as a 'tyrant, murderer, and enemy of the nation.' For a long time after the restoration of Charles II., it says, "the 30th of January was observed in the Church of England with special religious service as the day of *King Charles the martyr*, but in 1859 that farce was abolished by act of Parliament, because of its offensiveness to many in the church and out of it."

The Protestant then quotes the prayer given above, and adds this comment:

"To be sure, copy his constancy in lying and deception, in cruelty and tyranny, in persecution and bloodshed! They will chime in with that other prayer: 'Almighty God, who has given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life; give us grace that we most thankfully receive His inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed footsteps of this most holy life, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.' But is it not enough to start from their graves the heroes of the Revolution when in this day, scarcely more than a hundred years after, these obsequious and patronizing sons yield to the insipidity and absurdity of such an unworthy performance? The simplicity that made us noble is

passing away, and we are lured on to the follies that mark the decay of the great nations of the past."

The United Presbyterian (Pittsburg) also has a word to say on the subject, as follows:

"Saint Charles I. it is now. It is only lately that his saintliness has been discovered. Ever since his head fell from the block it has been thought that King Charles I. was an enemy of freedom, that he ruthlessly trampled on the rights of the people, that he violated his covenants, and in many ways was not the kind of person that should hold the English scepter. Whatever may be thought as to the rightness of his execution, it has never been supposed that he was anywhere near saintship. But a new order of things has come, and he is enrolled among the martyrs. This is bad enough in England, but to think of two bishops blessing, dedicating, consecrating, or whatever it may be called, a painting of Charles in an Episcopal church in Philadelphia!"

In an editorial, February 7, the New York *Tribune* commented on the ceremony in Philadelphia in a tone of severity, saying that a few more incidents of the kind "would not only arrest any movement toward the church, but would drive out a large number of its loyal members." *The Tribune* also spoke of Charles I. as "obstinate, treacherous, superstitious, and narrow-minded," and declared that he was possessed with the pestilent belief in the divine right of kings, and more especially of his own divine right to rule as he pleased whether the people wanted him or not." *The Tribune* then concluded as follows:

"If those who took part in this ceremony or who sympathized with it were obscure men in the church it would call for no comment; but they were not. The preacher was Bishop Perry, of Iowa, who was attended by his chaplain, Father Nichol, Prior of the Order of the White Rose. Bishop Coleman, of Delaware, was also present, wearing a cloth-of-gold cope and attended by his chaplain. Bishop Seymour, of Springfield, Ill., who could not be present, sent a formal blessing. So also did Bishop Nicholson, of Milwaukee; Bishops McLaren of Chicago, Whitehead of Pittsburg, Scarborough of New Jersey, Starkey of Newark, and Williams of Connecticut, sent letters of sympathetic regret. Dr. Dix, rector of Trinity Church in this city, and other clergymen also sent letters of regret, Dr. Dix saying that he was in 'cordial sympathy with the occasion.' These are representative men in the Episcopal Church, and their approval of this curious ceremony gives the public the right to regard it as marking one of the tendencies of thought in that church. Even *The Churchman*, ever cautious, gives a sympathetic report of the service, calling it 'interesting and beautiful.' Is the Episcopal Church really going to approve of King Charles and what he stood for, thus ceasing to be American in its sympathies? Or is this apotheosis of the unfortunate king merely the ill-considered act of a few dreamers?"

The argument in behalf of Charles I. and in justification of the ceremony in Philadelphia is presented briefly in a letter which William Wirt Henry, of Kennett Square, Pa., writes to *The Tribune* of February 17. Mr. Henry says:

"I am glad to observe in your editorial of the 7th inst. that you do us the justice to observe that 'representative men in the Episcopal Church' either took part in the ceremony of unveiling the portrait of King Charles the Martyr or gave it their approval, but I am sorry that your writer's view of King Charles is colored by the bitterly prejudiced views of his murderers, rather than by the facts which scientific historians have made clear. Looking at it in the light of history, we see King Charles steadfastly refusing to abolish episcopacy. 'It would be no less a change than popery,' he said, 'and worse'; and, 'let my condition be never so low, I resolve, by the grace of God, never to yield up this church to the government of Papists, Presbyterians, or Independents.'"

"And upon this the historian Hutton comments: 'It was for this determination, as much as for any political reason, that he died; and his death, like Laud's, made certain the eventual triumph of the church.'"

"With his theory of the divine right of kings those who honor Charles the Martyr have nothing at all to do; with the fact that he died in defense of the Church of England, and this alone, are

they concerned. His policy has prevailed, and the Church of England and the Episcopal Church in this country are the fruits of his brave struggle against Protestantism on one hand and Romanism on the other."

THE NEW THEORY OF INSPIRATION.

FREQUENT reference is made nowadays to the Polychrome Bible which is being printed under the editorship of a committee of the "higher critics" of America and Europe. This Bible, as its name indicates, is printed in several colors, each color standing for a certain period in literary construction, and every passage in the Bible being printed in the color of the period to which it is assigned by the critics. In this way the composite construction attributed to a book like Genesis stands out at once before the eye.

Mr. William T. Stead, of the *London Review of Reviews*, publishes in a frontispiece (January) a portion of a chapter of Genesis as it is to appear in its various colors, and sets himself to explaining the attitude of the higher critics toward the Bible, and to "make plain to plain men" the effect of their work upon the traditional theories of inspiration. We reproduce here Mr. Stead's explanation, which, as will be readily seen, is made by one in close sympathy with the new methods of treatment. Mr. Stead writes as follows:

"For many years past so much has been said about the higher criticism and its bearing upon the Bible, that it is really time to try and make some of its conclusions plain to plain men. The result at which scholars such as Wellhausen, Cheyne, and Driver have arrived is by no means only of a negative kind. It is as positive as the theory of evolution, and quite as comprehensible. And what it comes to is this: In their opinion the whole of the old mechanical theory of the inspiration of the Bible has gone by the board as completely as the old mechanical theory of the creation of the world in a six-days' shift. But just as Darwinism suggested an infinitely more marvelous and divine theory of the creation of the world than the artless tradition of the Hebrews, so modern scholarship claims to have replaced the old theory of a God-dictated Bible by a theory of its origin far more divine.

"The frontispiece from the Polychrome Bible, with which I begin the New Year's number of *The Review of Reviews*, illustrates more clearly than any amount of description the way in which the new theory works. By printing a fragment of a single chapter, each section of which is printed in a color representing the period in which internal evidence suggests that it was compiled, the composite nature of the passage is as clearly brought out as a view of a transverse section of the world's surface in a text-book of geology illustrates the formation of the strata of the earth's crust. This chapter of Genesis, instead of being written off, as it were, at one sitting by Moses, doing dictation for the Almighty in the fifteenth century before Christ, is now, when subjected to the close analysis of modern scholarship, said to have been gradually built up by a succession of unknown editors, the earliest of whom probably lived about 640 B.C., and the latest about 500 B.C. The evidence for this is to be found in the structure of the language, the style of the authors, and all these minute differences of words and allusions which would enable any school-boy—to take a simple example—to pick out from a page of poetical selections what was written by Chaucer, by Shakespeare, or by Kipling. The old theory of the authorship of Genesis is now put on a par with a claim that such a Chaucer-Shakespeare-Kipling composite was written with his own hand by Alfred the Great.

"The discovery of the composite nature of many of the sacred books and their comparatively late origin has necessitated a change in the theory of inspiration. Much of the Old Testament as we have it is not so much an original work as a kind of review of reviews of the history and traditions of Israel. As it is my duty monthly to sieve and sift the voluminous mass of periodical literature, summarizing, condensing, and extracting, in order to get the main ideas of the writers into definite focus and manageable compass, so a succession of editors are held to have dealt with the traditions and ancient writings of the Hebrew race. Imagine this present number of *The Review of Reviews* care-

fully reedited and condensed a hundred years hence by another editor, whose standpoint, altho the same as mine, admitted of very wide divergence in the matter of political and social perspective, and then two hundred years later let another editor reedit the conglomerate mass so as to make it accord more closely to the altered needs of the new time. If then the resulting reedited recasting of the previously twice-edited compost of condensation and extract were to be regarded as fixed and definite, and were not altered for a thousand years, we should then have a result not dissimilar to that which we are now said to have in the first six books of the Old Testament.

"Where then, according to the new theory, does inspiration come in? On this subject it is absurd to dogmatize. It may be sufficient to suggest in roughest outline some leading features of the new doctrine of inspiration.

"Divine inspiration is not to be found in a mechanical concatenation of words and syllables. The divine inspiration entered not primarily into a book, but into the life of the Hebrew race. There it germinated and grew until it bore fruit in certain pre-eminently inspired personalities, such as Amos and Isaiah. These prophets and holy men of old thus became the channels through which flowed into human consciousness the conception of the divine character and purpose which found its decisive culmination in the person of Jesus Christ. Their sayings and writings, which were reverently collected and transmitted, formed the raw material upon which successive editors worked. The various books of the Old Testament mirror more or less accurately the various phases or stages of the evolution of the God-idea. Some are believed to be comparatively free from editorial handling or condensation. Others, notably the so-called books of Moses, are very much edited indeed. But the inspiring idea of God and of His Kingdom dominated, altho in very varying degrees, the prophet, the editor, and the race. The sacred writers, altho inspired, were not infallible, but whatever errors they may have made never eclipsed the central truth which they themselves often but imperfectly understood.

"Such at least may be taken as the opinion of the more believing members of the school of higher critics. They may be right or they may be wrong. Probably they are both. But whether right or wrong, they affirm as unhesitatingly as the most rigid of the upholders of the older theory that the source of the inspiration of the sacred writers was divine, and that the soul of their teachings was the revelation of God."

PROVERBS FROM MODERN JERUSALEM.

NO one knows better than the Bible students how valuable the proverbs, adages, sayings, etc., of the Arabs are for the understanding of the Semitic methods of expressing thought. In these sayings of the Arabs there are often side-lights on the proverbial literature of the Bible. Probably the most valuable new collection of proverbs of this kind that has appeared for years has been published in the *Zeitschrift* of the German Palestine Society (vol. xix.). The author is Mrs. Lydia Einsler, who all her life has lived in Jerusalem, and gives this collection of 206 proverbs gathered in her intercourse with the people of the sacred city and its environs. We quote a number as samples:

"Is your friend made of honey, do not lick him away entirely," *i.e.*, use a friend when in need, but do not abuse him.

"A wise enemy is better than a crazy friend," *i.e.*, a crazy friend will do you more harm than a wise enemy.

"He who sees his relatives, forgets his friends," *i.e.*, when in the circle of relatives friends are forgotten.

"If your neighbor casts hatred upon you, change your door to another side of the house," *i.e.*, avoid quarrels.

"A house without a neighbor is worth a thousand gold florins."

"Search your own house through seven times before you charge your neighbor with theft."

"A neighbor who is helpful is better than a brother who is not."

"Every cock crows loudest on his own manure pile."

"He has no garments for his legs, but yet he is decorated with flowers"—used of a vain man.

"Whoever falls in love with a slave gets to be his slave; who-

ever falls in love with a stone, carries it with him"—used of silly love affairs.

"Praise nobody unless you have first tried him."

"The gossip of two people can destroy two houses."

"Sit rather between two women who are baking bread than between two who are washing," *i.e.*, the first will give you fresh bread, the latter will bespatter you with water.

"By day she destroys her houses and at night she burns her oil," said of an impracticable woman.

"The thread of a diligent woman is as long as the arm; the thread of the lazy woman is as long as the body," *i.e.*, a diligent woman takes shorter threads in order to be able to sew more quickly and more firmly, while a lazy woman takes long threads to avoid the trouble of threading the needle.

"She now has a house and a nail in the wall"—used of a person of lower social order who has attained to a higher, especially of a poor woman who has married a wealthy husband. "A nail in the wall" is representative of firmness and the possession of property (*Cf.* Ezra ix. 8; Is. xxii. 23-25).

"The family that has educated me has never deserted me nor withdrawn from me," *i.e.*, home is the best.

"Do good and you will reap good results."

"Do good and cast it upon the ocean," *i.e.*, do good without any hope of reward.

"After they have been bitten they take care of themselves," *i.e.*, a burnt child fears the fire.

"We can get nothing without payment except blindness and deafness."

"Rather spit on the hand than kiss it," *i.e.*, have self-respect and work.

"Take care that you may not with your tongue cut off your head," *i.e.*, that by inconsiderate words you may bring evil upon yourself.

"The offal of your barn-house is better than the wheat of strangers."

"To try to teach one advanced in years wisdom is just like whipping an ass," *i.e.*, nothing is accomplished.

"A single borrowed seed can destroy a field," *i.e.*, a farmer who begins to borrow corn will always get more deeply into debt.

"A borrowed dress does not keep warm."

"It is better to clothe one's self with straw matting than with a borrowed dress."

"He who has drunk out of a well should not throw a stone into it," *i.e.*, be grateful and appreciate favors.

"Count the days of the month on which you did not receive any wages," *i.e.*, be indifferent to that which does not benefit you.

"A sheep when it has been slain does not feel the flaying," *i.e.*, when we are once in misfortune, we become hardened to it.

"Chastise the older child in order that the younger may learn thereby."

"Upon a stepmother rests the wrath of God; she does not love and is not beloved."

"Take care of that which is old; the new will bring you nothing good," expressive of the conservative tendency of the Oriental mind.

"Every person thinks his own saliva tastes good."

"If it were not for hope, all work would cease."

"Haste comes from the devil, but patient endurance from God."

"A husband is a blessing even if he brings nothing with him but a bit of coal," *i.e.*, a girl should marry even a poor husband.

"For many to die together is a gracious gift of God"—used in case a number are killed by accident.

"It is enough to fill the belly half; it need not be altogether full."

"Habit is a fifth nature."

The Failure of Islam.—In a syndicate article by the Rev. Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, published simultaneously in a number of religious journals, the failure of Islam is charged under seven specifications. We quote:

"1. Islam is a failure in wealth. It has had vast possessions, and has wasted them. It once had control of all the channels of commerce. The wealth of India and the commerce of the three seas mentioned above were all her own. She had the climates, the soils, the rivers, the sea coasts, the mines, out of which civil-

ized nations produce boundless wealth. And yet her greatest empire, Turkey—the Ottoman Empire, as the Turks proudly call it—is too poor to pay its soldiers, and it can not raise a loan of ten thousand pounds in any market in Europe. It can not pay one per cent. on its public debt, altho consolidated to about one half its original size. It has not only failed to develop wealth, it has failed to keep what it once enjoyed. It has made its peoples poor on lands that once smiled with abundance. . . .

"2. What has Islam done with the arts, the so-called fine arts, music, painting, poetry, architecture, sculpture? Nothing, and less than nothing. She has destroyed the arts which she inherited. She conquered the highest civilization of the world in all these departments. If for a time she cultivated them, they all perished in her hands. Christian nations have left her helplessly in the rear. She has no school of any art that adds anything to human knowledge. Her great university in Egypt teaches the fanaticism of the Koran and the Traditions as the highest and the sufficient sources of human knowledge."

Dr. Hamlin proceeds in like manner to show forth the failure in legal science, nothing having been accomplished since the reign of Solymán the Magnificent, and his great code, "Multika ul Ubhurr" ("The Confluence of the Seas"); in the mechanic arts; in agriculture and mining; in government; and even in missionary zeal and success, except in Africa, where conquest has been extended by means of the slave trade, but will stop when that trade ceases, as it must soon do.

Presbyterian Church Statistics.—Several letters have called in question the church statistics in *THE LITERARY DIGEST*, February 6, so far as they pertain to the Presbyterians. The table (taken from *The Independent*) showed a gain of but 1,347 for the 12 Presbyterian bodies. Concerning this, Rev. Dr. H. K. Carroll, religious editor of *The Independent*, writes us as follows:

"*Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST.*—The table which you copied from *The Independent* was a summary only and did not give the statistics of the Presbyterian branches in detail. The footings were correct, but they do an injustice to several of the Presbyterian churches because it is true that there was a large increase in the Northern Presbyterian Church and also in the Southern Presbyterian Church; but this was offset by a considerable falling-off in the returns of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. These facts all appear in the detailed table in *The Independent*, consequently those who see that understand the situation. But the totals for all Presbyterian churches did an injustice when printed alone, and I do not wonder that your attention as well as mine has been called to the matter."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

SOME idea of a missionary's isolation may be gained from the fact, stated in *The Missionary Herald*, that Dr. Atwood, in Shansi, China, had not seen a European face in fifteen years, excepting those of his fellow missionaries.

FIFTEEN million dollars has been the income of the various Protestant foreign missionary societies of the world during the last year, as estimated by the American Board of Foreign Missions. This is about \$1,000,000 more than the income of the previous year.

THE Moravians report 150 mission-stations, 400 missionaries, 234 day-schools, with 22,000 scholars, 110 Sunday-schools, and 93,000 converts in foreign lands. These remarkable statistics show that this church abroad is three times the size of the church at home.

THE Glasgow *Herald* is responsible for the statement that the subject of a closer *rapprochement* between the Church of England and the Church of Scotland is receiving much greater consideration in Episcopal circles in Scotland than one could gather merely from an observation of the surface of events.

IN Jerusalem Consul Wallace says there are 530 United States citizens. Of these, 438 are Hebrews dwelling in the city for various purposes. Of the others, 92 in number, the chief portion consists of those who are there awaiting the second advent of our Lord, which they anticipate as near at hand.

PRESIDENT THWING of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, says that in the fifty years in the middle of the present century somewhat more than sixteen thousand men graduated at the eight principal colleges of New England, of which number more than four thousand became ministers. In all of these institutions the Day of Prayer for colleges has always been one of the most sacred of religious anniversaries.

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

WOMAN-SUFFRAGE IN ENGLAND.

IN the English Commons the Woman-Suffrage bill has passed the second reading by a majority of 71. This does not mean necessarily that women will be allowed to vote for members of Parliament in the near future. Mr. Labouchere declares that most of the members who voted for the bill were in much the same position as Samson with regard to Delilah: they were simply tired to death by their women. However, the vote is likely to interest the country sufficiently to elicit a declaration of public sentiment on the subject. Many people doubt that women would vote if they had the franchise, others point out that women, like their male inferiors, would divide into parties, and that there would be little change in politics. *The St. James's Gazette*, London, argues, in substance, as follows:

We Conservatives were at one time somewhat disturbed by the idea that woman should engage actively in politics. But that was before the Primrose League, which has benefited the Conservative cause very much, was dreamed of. It has been found that the radical element is not very strong among the gentler sex. Nowadays woman-suffrage has become a common-sense, practical demand, which will doubtless some day be granted, but nobody thinks that it will change the political situation much. The woman householder, or the woman property-holder, married or single, is likely to vote with a somewhat Conservative bias, as do most people with something to lose. When she comes into her rights—as she doubtless will before long—she will do nothing destructive or revolutionary. But neither will she bring about the millennium.

The Times is very strongly against woman-suffrage, and “can only envy the complacent optimism of those who can contemplate without misgivings the fortunes of an empire governed by women.” *The Times* fears that Englishmen should pause to consider what they are doing ere they ruin the chances of their country “when placed in sharp rivalry with states wise enough to remain under masculine guidance.” *The Daily Mail* mutters something about a “tremendous and reckless revolution.” *The Scotsman*, Edinburgh, says:

“No one would venture to say that there has been any deterioration in the efficiency of Town Councils or any declension in the orderliness of municipal elections since the female ratepayer was permitted to enter the polling-booth. . . . There is no reason whatever for thinking that the class of voters who would be enfranchised under the bill—that of women who are already entitled, by the holding or occupancy of property and the payment of rates, to vote in municipal elections—are on the average inferior, intellectually or morally, or less capable of taking an intelligent interest in politics, and casting their vote for the good of the state, than the body of electors whose names are already on the roll.”

The Standard says:

“Whether women themselves really desire the franchise or not may be a doubtful point. But those who do not want it need not use it; and is it just for the sake of these to exclude from it that large number of educated and intelligent women who, as Professor Jebb truly says, are eagerly demanding it? We do not think that either in the polling-booth or the House of Commons—if they ever got there—their conduct would be likely to contrast unfavorably with that of their male relatives. At all events, a returning officer in New Zealand, where women have the suffrage, has said that he would rather poll two hundred women than seventy men.”

The Morning Post advocates the enfranchisement of at least single women who are taxpayers. *The Daily Graphic* thinks “the vote shows that if any large number of women in England make up their mind that they must have the franchise—or the moon, for that matter—the House of Commons knows better than to stand in their way.” *The Leader* charges the opponents of

woman-suffrage with dishonesty. *The Daily Chronicle* fears that the members who voted for the bill have shown unwarranted weakness, and adds:

“With the enfranchisement of women, in the real and revolutionary sense, this piece of parliamentary chicane has very little to do. Yet this vast question will some day become a practical issue, tho not to-day or to-morrow. When it does, the world will have to decide for or against a gigantic change, whereby the minority of men, who do the bulk of the world's work and take perforce by far the greater share of its responsibilities, may find themselves obeying the resolves of a feminine majority. That women as a whole desire this no one says. How it would result no one can pretend to know.”

The Newcastle *Chronicle* thinks the Commons hardly mean the vote to be taken seriously, but admits that, if the measure becomes law, there is no reason to suppose that women can be kept out of Parliament. *The Daily Telegraph*, London, is certain that the matter will not be pushed after this. It says:

“There will be all kinds of rejoicings in the offices of woman-suffrage committees, and there, it is reasonable to suppose, the matter will end until next year, and the year after that, and again the year after that, the same kind of motion will be made and discussed in the same fashion, perhaps with the same result.”

CUBA, SPAIN, AND THE UNITED STATES.

IN Cuba the situation remains unchanged. The insurgents have not yet signified any willingness to accept the reforms passed in the Spanish parliament. They deny that the Spaniards are making headway in crushing the rebellion, and declare that the Spanish troops are unable to prevent them from destroying property where and whenever they please. Their attitude meets with little encouragement outside of the United States. There is no sympathy to speak of with the insurgents now that Spain has offered them an autonomy very similar to that of Canada; indeed the *Hamburger Nachrichten* thinks that if the insurgents were patriots and not brigands, they would accept the terms offered. That Spain could accept the intervention of the United States without loss of self-respect is denied everywhere, and especially in France. *The Journal des Débats*, Paris, says:

“It is certain that Spain can not treat with the United States on the subject, nor accept nor tolerate official American mediation. If Spain were to do so, she would accord belligerency rights to the disorganized bands of rebels in Cuba. Further, Spain would acknowledge that the confused views generally described under the name of the Monroe doctrine are recognized internationally. Lastly, Spain would admit that, in spite of the sacrifices she has made, she is powerless to crush the rebellion. The attitude of the British Government with regard to Venezuela is no precedent, for in this case the intervention of the United States was accepted by two sovereign states, while the attitude of the United States Government shows that it does not intend to recognize the rebels.”

The French press is convinced that Spaniards of all ranks and all political parties stand united against American aggression. The attitude of Emilio Castelar has to a large extent caused this impression. Castelar is still the acknowledged leader of the Spanish Republicans, but he is as anxious as ever to prove that he will not make use of his country's troubles to further the ends of his party. He says, in the *Temps*, Paris:

“The Americans should not forget that Spain occupies the same position with regard to America which Rome held with regard to Europe. If Rome has been the making of the Old World, Spain has certainly been the making of the New. I am told that we can not escape a conflict with the United States. If that is so, then America is guilty of as criminal aggression as Napoleon in 1808. Luckily we have done nothing to provoke it, and we can receive their threats with the contempt born of a good conscience. Even now we do all we can to escape this war, without submitting to indignities. But if the United States must needs attack us,

we will do the best we can to defend ourselves. . . . For my own part, I do not believe that the Americans wish to pose as a warlike and conquering people. If they do, it is our duty to meet them without arrogance, but also without fear."

The South American papers regard the attitude of our press with undisguised jealousy. The *Tiempo*, Buenos Ayres, while acknowledging its sympathy with any people struggling to become independent, declares that the connection between the Cubans and the United States must deprive the former of the good-will of the South Americans. "The northern colossus seeks to establish its sway in the Gulf of Mexico," says the paper. "We certainly have no reason to assist her in doing so. We have nothing in common with the people of the north, and can not rejoice to see Spain humiliated by so domineering a race." The *Argentino*, Buenos Ayres, says:

"The war in Cuba is not a fight for liberty. It is a duel between men who value national honor and mercenary creatures who sell their honor in the hope that their disloyalty may cause them to reap a rich harvest. . . . We Argentines, imbued with the spirit of the men of Fontenoy, who saluted their adversaries before they rushed into battle, can not quite understand what sort of 'honor' belongs to that peculiar race which shouts *America for the Americans*, and then demonstrates its interpretation of the Monroe doctrine by ravaging Mexico with fire and sword, robbing her of a large part of her territory."

The *Defensa*, La Paz, Bolivia, says:

"The Cuban insurrection can not well obtain sympathy among South Americans, partly because the insurgents belong to a class which we can not favor, partly because it is used to cover the aggression of a race altogether foreign to us, and to which we are much opposed. It is well known that the insurgents are continually working to obtain recognition as belligerents, but the movement does not make much headway. The insurgents are not absolute masters of ever so small a portion of the island, their government is purely imaginary, and their army is composed of dislocated hands only, whose sole business it is to commit depredations."

The *Municipio*, Rosario, Argentine Republic, reminds its readers that Spain was the first country to civilize America, declares that the Cubans have no reason to complain, and asserts that they show their want of patriotism by pandering to the arrogant prejudices of the people of the north.

In England public opinion seems much divided. Some papers declare that the interests of Europe will not allow England to favor the United States in this matter. "There is," says *The Home News*, London, "of course, a vast difference between the Venezuelan and the Cuban questions, and even Lord Salisbury, far as he has gone in meeting American views, might probably find it necessary to join Germany and France if Spanish rights in Cuba were unscrupulously jeopardized by American intervention." And *The Times* relates that Germany has made promises of assistance to Spain. But the German papers, while not at all favorable to the attitude of the United States, assert that Germany has nothing to do with the matter, and will not interfere in things which do not concern her. The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"It must be remembered that England lets no chance slip to calumniate Germany. The possibility that German interests may suffer, however slightly, by such inventions, is sufficient reason for *The Times* to set them afloat. But the whole story of German intervention is made up out of whole cloth. Like similar news, it has probably been set afloat to influence the stock exchange."

The *Politische Correspondenz*, Vienna, defines England's position as follows:

"The friendship of the United States is of too great importance to England to permit the latter country to interfere actively on behalf of Spain. England wishes, of course, that Spain may be able to maintain her authority over Cuba, but England can not

close her eyes to the fact that the Cuban administration has made many grave mistakes. The British Government is nevertheless satisfied that the United States Government will neither favor the independence of Cuba seriously, nor annexation of the island to the Union. But reforms must be carried out in Cuba, and it would be a grave mistake on the part of the Spanish Government to delay these reforms in the hope that Europe will, at the last instant, protect Spanish interests effectively."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SUDAN.

THE Dervishes are stirring again, and unless England sends another expedition up the Nile she will find herself attacked at Suakim. Major Wingate, of the Anglo-Egyptian army, has found that the Mahdi has some fifty Krupp guns, taken from the English and Egyptian forces during their former disastrous expeditions into the Sudan. There is no superabundance of ammunition, but it will last during a decisive battle. As many as 35,000 of the Mahdi's men are armed with modern rifles, but he has only 60 cartridges for each rifle. The British Government is anxious to obtain the assistance of the Kongo state and Italy in crushing the Dervishes. The *Hamburg Correspondent*, nevertheless, denies that King Leopold will join in such an expedition. It says:

"What the King wanted for the Kongo state he has already. His forces hold the left bank of the Nile from Wadelai to Lado, and the garrisons of Dufie and Gondokoro are so strong and so well supplied with artillery that it would be very difficult to dislodge them. The Kongo state is well established, and will not enter into adventures for the purpose of pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for others. King Leopold is too practical for that."

It is now reported that England will advance upon Khartoum in the autumn, if the Turkish question can be settled by that time. England has now nothing to fear from the powers as far as Egypt is concerned. Even Russia will be satisfied with the neutralization of the Suez Canal. But the English papers fear that France will enter the Sudan through her colony of Obock, and take possession of the Mahdi's country with the help of Abyssinia. This must be prevented. *The St. James's Gazette* acknowledges that France has only "the one little ewe-lamb of Obock" on the east coast of Africa, but asserts that civilization will be served ill if any country but England is allowed to expand in that region. England must therefore take prompt measures. The paper concludes as follows:

"To the west the French colony of Obock stretches back to Abyssinia, and already French and Russian influence is paramount at the court of Menelik. A French expedition is now on its way to Amhara. What is to prevent its descending from the hills and hoisting the French flag on some town on the Blue Nile—Sennar, for instance? The situation requires prompt measures, and the only effectual means of preventing the French from seizing the upper Nile valley is to occupy it ourselves."

The Italian papers assert that England and Italy will make common cause against the Dervishes. That Italy will retire altogether from Africa is not believed. "Our English contemporaries," says the *Tribuna*, Rome, "are too hasty in asserting that we must turn over the colony of Erythrea to Great Britain. We have not yet made up our mind to give it up." The paper relates that an Italian chartered company will exploit Italy's African possessions. The *Roma*, Rome, says:

"Menelik refuses to release the prisoners who are still in his hands until the Italian troops have evacuated the territory under dispute between Italy and Abyssinia. This is bad news, for if the Italians are forced to retire just now, the Dervishes will naturally fancy that they have made themselves feared. Unfortunately the position of the English troops in Suakim is hardly better than that of the Italian garrison of Kassala. Both places are isolated. It is very likely that Osman Digma will take ad-

vantage of the weakness of the English garrison and attack it first. Kassala will probably hold out. True, its garrison is composed of natives only, under Italian officers, but the place is well fortified. The question is, however, does it seem advantageous to Italy to retain so distant an outpost?"

So far the Italians have not met with such disastrous defeat at the hands of the Dervishes as the English. Major Cortese drove back the Dervishes in 1890, and in 1893 Colonel Arimondi defeated 12,000 of them with 22,000 native troops, led by 42 Italian officers. Eight thousand rifles were taken in this battle by the Italians, and a large number of horses and camels. It seems, indeed, that the Dervishes are not in a hurry to attack Italian positions. The *Corriere della Sera*, Naples, says:

"What the Mahdists really wanted when they entered Erythrea is not quite clear. They came and went without attacking the Italian outposts. If the garrison of Kassala was not so weak numerically, it could have fallen upon their flank. Very probably they intended more than a plundering expedition, but the unexpected celerity with which General Viganò gathered troops at Agordat disconcerted them, and they thought it dangerous to advance farther. Their inroad has nevertheless furnished General Baldissera with a new argument for the abandonment of the isolated post at Kassala."

The *Secolo*, Milan, also denies that Italy will abandon her African enterprises altogether. The paper believes that Kassala will ultimately be handed over to Egypt, but does not think that Italy will enter very readily into an alliance with England to fight the Dervishes, as England did her best to make Italy's position untenable during the Abyssinian war."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

CECIL RHODES AND SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

THO Mr. Rhodes's friends in Parliament introduced a motion against his examination before a parliamentary committee, he has been summoned to explain his share in the Jameson raid. Mr. Rhodes asserted boldly that, as an Englishman, he had a right to send men into the Transvaal, and that, in his belief, the Transvaal Government favored German influence to the detriment of English interests. He believes that the mine-owners of Johannesburg are entitled to rule the Transvaal, charges the Transvaal Government with corruption, and relates that the foreign population of the Transvaal is numerically stronger than the Boers, and therefore entitled to the rule of the country. So far Mr. Rhodes has not attempted to substantiate his assertions, nor has he been asked to do so. It is, however, very probable that the British Government will hesitate to allow his statements regarding the German and Transvaal governments to pass unchallenged. If the financial papers are to be relied upon, the agitation against the Transvaal is continued chiefly to prevent the ill-starred Chartered Company from collapsing. *Money*, London, hopes that the parliamentary committee will not take any notice of the "bounce" of Mr. Rhodes and his friends, who claim that the committee "dare not to lay a finger on him." As to the Chartered Company as a money-making venture, *Money* regards the Company's outlook as anything but reassuring, and calls upon Lord Randolph Churchill to witness to the truth of the following assertions:

"Rhodesia is practically valueless, and it therefore matters little whether in future its government is to be by charter or otherwise. We again assert our belief that neither financially nor politically can it ever be of the slightest use either to the Chartered Company, the Cape Colony, or the British Government. It possesses no gold, and is a natural enemy both to man and beast. One of the latest reported assertions of Colonel Rhodes is that his brother means to rely little upon gold, but to develop it for agriculture. But will agricultural development provide dividends for the two

hundred or more companies already floated there, with gold-mining as their goal? Most assuredly not!

"Agriculture in Rhodesia will turn out a bigger 'frost' than gold-mining, and the new railways will help neither the one nor the other. If any one wants to go in for agriculture in South Africa they can easily do so, where they are within easy reach of a population to consume their produce, and where their horses and cattle do not regularly die off after two or three hours' illness, as they frequently do in Mashonaland and Matabeleland."

Similar assertions are made by the semi-society, semi-financial papers whose *clientèle* is chiefly among small capitalists and recipients of pensions and annuities. Much of the money sunk in the Chartered venture has come from these people, and they have become Mr. Rhodes's enemies. Mr. Chamberlain, like Mr. Rhodes, assumes that the British section of the foreign population of the Transvaal are oppressed by the Boers, declares that England is the paramount power in South Africa, and believes that the British Government will be forced to assist openly in putting the legislature of the Transvaal into the hands of Englishmen. He accuses President Krüger of having failed to fulfil his promises to the British population of the mines. President Krüger inquires "What promises?" but the British press and Government have failed to answer the question, the only reference to the President's inquiry being the following in the *London Globe*: "President Krüger would like Mr. Chamberlain to state definitely and plainly what were the promises made to the Uitlanders which have not been kept. Of course he would. Like the sage of Hawarden, Oom Paul has a marvelous talent for seeming to promise things when, as a matter of fact, he promises nothing at all." The majority of English papers nevertheless still believe that if Englishmen choose to emigrate in sufficient numbers to the Transvaal to form the majority, that country must be made a British possession, if not by vote, then by force of arms. Hence the press indorses Mr. Chamberlain's statement that the committee must principally investigate the primary causes of the Jameson raid.

The German papers regard the parliamentary inquiry as a farce, intended to give the British Government a chance to discover reasons which will satisfy the "unctuous rectitude" of Englishmen when another attack upon the Transvaal is made. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine*, Berlin, believes that the inquiry will lead to no results. Mr. Rhodes's attacks upon Germany are described as "beneath contempt," by this official paper. The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"Mr. Chamberlain certainly knows how to turn things around. It seems that the Transvaal is always expected to give, altho she never gains anything by her peaceful attitude. It is a pity that the people of the republic did not hang the filibusters on the nearest tree, which, according to international law, they had a perfect right to do. The emigration laws of which Mr. Chamberlain complains do not apply to Englishmen only, but to foreigners. These laws may be disagreeable, but they are necessary. Without such laws Rhodes would be enabled to smuggle his men over the border. It is time for the slow-going Boers to unite in a firm alliance against British intrigues. They need not wait for the



PRESIDENT KRÜGER TO JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN: "If you want my land come and take it."

—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

end of that parliamentary inquiry. It is a farce, and nothing more. Rhodes will return to South Africa in triumph."

The Hamburg *Correspondent* declares that it will not be impossible to whitewash Rhodes, especially as Chamberlain, instead of acknowledging that grievous wrong has been done to the Transvaal, made the Transvaal responsible for the raid. The *Hamburger Nachrichten* says:

"We would like to know what England would say if Dutchmen or any one else were to drive them out of a country colonized by them. The inquiry is a farce. No witnesses summoned will tell tales, for one crow will not peck out another's eyes. The alleged alliance between Germany and the Transvaal is a phantom of British imagination. Germany's only duty in the matter is to preserve the *status quo* in South Africa, and to oppose the encroachments of the self-styled paramount power."

There is little doubt that France will leave England as free to act in Transvaal as Germany has left her with regard to the Egyptian question. The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, points out that much French capital is invested in Johannesburg mines, and that France, on this account, can not seriously oppose England. The *Liberté*, Paris, says:

"There is no probability that Cecil Rhodes will share the fate of Lord Clive. The result of the inquiry will be to show that the Uitlanders were quite right, and that Krüger and his Boers are too pastoral and biblical to deal with the European society of which the elements fomenting at Johannesburg are composed. Oom Paul is sure to pay the piper in the end, for money talks, and the shareholders of the gold-mines attribute the fall in shares to his clumsy government. The Chartered Company is known to have a considerable *clientèle* in France."

Meanwhile President Krüger finds it difficult to restrain the Boers. "We are tired of British insults," says the *Volkstem*; "if the English want our country, let them try to take it! England is governed to suit Englishmen, without consideration for foreigners; it is time to give Englishmen to understand that we, too, will be masters in our country, unless Englishmen have the ability as well as the longing to conquer us."

The South African mails are daily bringing to Europe accounts very different from those telegrams which form the principal source of foreign news in the press. It seems that the Boers of the Cape Colony, instead of supporting Mr. Rhodes, as the cable informed the world, have everywhere gathered in indignation meetings. The names of prominent South Africans have been mentioned in support of Mr. Rhodes's cause without the consent of their owners, and the Afrikaner Bond, with Hofmeyr at its head, repudiates him.—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

NATIONAL DEBTS OF THE WORLD.

IT is a well-known paradox that a country can not be prosperous without a certain amount of national debt. This may be disputed, but it is certain that hardly a civilized nation is to be found to-day without the burden of national debt. The *Handels-Zeitung*, New York, has compiled some interesting statistics on the subject, from which we quote the following:

"The total national debt of the world is now \$29,000,000,000, while in 1875 it was \$23,750,000,000. France has the distinction of leading the world in this regard with a debt of \$6,000,000,000, followed by Great Britain with \$3,300,000,000. The third on the list is Austro-Hungary with \$3,030,000,000, while Russia is fourth with \$2,875,000,000, and Italy fifth with \$2,530,000,000. Spain comes next with \$1,395,000,000, and the United States is seventh with \$996,141,952. Germany has a debt of only \$420,000,000.

"Spain owes comparatively the largest sum to foreigners, while in France the great bulk of the papers are in possession of the Frenchmen themselves. But nearly every other nation is indebted for enormous amounts to its own subjects. France takes the lead as a lending people on account of the good financial standing and

the saving propensities of its people. The example of France seems to confirm the proposition that a national debt is a good thing for the prosperity of a people, for in that country the national debt and the general prosperity of the populace have steadily advanced in recent decades in equal proportions.

"The growth of national debts can be seen from the following table, in which the figures for twenty years ago are given in the first column, those for to-day in the second column:

France	\$4,500,000,000	\$6,000,000,000
England	3,900,000,000	3,300,000,000
Austro-Hungary	1,750,000,000	3,000,000,000
Russia	1,700,000,000	2,875,000,000
Italy	1,950,000,000	2,530,000,000
United States	2,220,000,000	996,141,952
Spain	1,375,000,000	1,395,000,000
Germany	1,000,000,000	420,000,000
Australasia	230,000,000	1,200,000,000
Turkey	675,000,000	900,000,000
Portugal	345,000,000	765,000,000
India	650,000,000	635,000,000
Brazil	475,000,000	590,000,000
Egypt	375,000,000	530,000,000

"Rather remarkable is the increase of debt in Australasia, especially over against the repeated statement of Great Britain that its loyal colonies enjoy a higher degree of prosperity than do those that have become independent. Japan and the Argentine Republic belong to the states that have in recent years been contracting debts on a large scale, the former now having \$235,000,000 and the latter \$370,000,000. Borrowers on a somewhat smaller scale are Belgium, with a debt of \$445,000,000, Holland with \$460,000,000, Canada with \$255,000,000, an increase of \$100,000,000 since 1875. The total debt of Great Britain including the colonies is \$5,485,000,000, a sum almost equal to the debt of France.

"One reason for the enormous increase of national debts is probably the fact that money is now much cheaper than it was twenty years ago. At present the total sum of interest to be paid on national debts is \$1,115,000,000, while twenty years ago it was \$1,000,000,000, altho the total debt at that time was \$5,000,000,000 less than it is at present. In 1875 Spain and Mexico paid as high as 15 and 18 per cent. interest. Altho the national debt of France is so enormous, yet it pays comparatively the smallest amount of interest money, namely, \$185,000,000, while Great Britain pays annually \$125,000,000; Russia, \$120,000,000; Italy, \$117,000,000; Spain, \$56,000,000; Austro-Hungary as much as \$186,000,000. The latter country accordingly pays more interest than France, altho the French debt is twice as large as that of the Austrian Empire. It is interesting to note that each inhabitant of France must, on the average, pay each year \$4.75 interest on the national debt; each Russian, \$1.20; each Englishman, \$3.15; each Austrian, \$7.50; each Italian, \$3.80; each Spaniard, \$3.25; each American, 42 cents, and each German, 33 cents."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

A Barometrical Mare.—"A veterinary of Vendome, M. Bonnigal," says *Le Chasseur Français*, "bought in 1888 a half-blooded mare, seven years old and trained for the race-course. For several months the animal, whether in harness or mounted, showed nothing out of the usual course in her gait. This was very fast and graceful; but one fine day, in moist autumn weather, the animal began to limp. From that time her owner noticed that she limped only in going against the wind, or entering an alley filled with mist; except under these conditions, if she limped it was a sure sign of rain. If, soon after a rain, the limping failed to manifest itself when going against the wind, the return of fine weather was to be predicted; prolonged rest prevented or retarded the return of the limping, according to the weather, or diminished its intensity; after the heating effect of a journey of several leagues the limp did not reappear until after a stop of considerable duration. In the absence of such a stop the animal could run a long race without being obliged to change her gait. Such are the facts shown by observations taken during five years, during which the mare has been constantly used. This barometrical mare is a curious example of the intermittent lamenesses, due to arterial lesions, that are the despair of the experts in such matters."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

In an article entitled "Made in Japan," *The Pall Mall Gazette* describes how manufacturing nations have always encroached upon each other's domains. The Dutch, importing English clay, made good profit out of imitations of Chinese porcelain, and after a while the Dutch product became firmly established in the markets of the world as Delft ware. English potters copied the Dutch pattern, sold it a good deal cheaper, and the North of England became the headquarters for Delft china. Lately the Japanese, having acquainted themselves with the patterns best liked in England, encroach upon the domain long monopolized by the English potter. The Japanese product is much finer and stronger, and above all much cheaper than the best English ware, and thus Japan is providing the markets with goods which were originally regarded as a Chinese monopoly.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LIFE AS THE CRIMINAL SEES IT.

WE do not mean to intimate that Josiah Flyntt is in any respect a criminal; but he certainly seems to have presented a side of criminal life entirely new to the public and to have helped the world to see the criminal as he sees himself. Distrusting the study of criminals as carried on in prisons and reformatories, Mr. Flyntt has at intervals during the last ten years lived intimately with the vagabonds of both England and the United States, studying them in nearly every large city in these two countries and becoming acquainted with many notorious members of the class. In *The Forum* (February) he gives some of the results of this study. They flatly contradict at many points the conclusions drawn by Lombroso and other criminologists from study carried out in prisons and courts. To begin with, he notes that the professional criminals who make a business of crime from commercial motives constitute far the larger part of the class, tho they often succeed in convincing the jury as well as the criminologist that they are not wilful offenders. Nor is poverty as prevalent a cause of crime as many suppose. On this point Mr. Flyntt writes as follows:

"Contrary to a more or less popular opinion, I must also say that the criminals I am acquainted with are not such because they are unable to keep body and soul together in any other way. The people who go into crime for this reason are far less numerous than is generally supposed. It is true that they come, as a rule, from the poverty-stricken districts of our large cities, and that the standard of life in these districts, particularly for families, is pitifully low; but a single person can live in them far more easily than the philanthropists think. The necessities of life, for instance, can be had by simply begging; and this is the way they are found by the majority of people who are not willing to work for them. The criminal, however, wants the luxuries of life as well; he seeks gold and the most expensive pleasures that gold can buy; and to get them he preys upon those who have it. He thinks that if all goes well he may become an aristocrat; and, having so little to lose and so much to gain, he deliberately takes his chances.

"I must furthermore say that those criminals who are known to me are not, as is also popularly supposed, the scum of their environment. On the contrary, they are above their environment, and are often gifted with talents which would enable them to do well in any class, could they only be brought to realize its responsibilities and to take advantage of its opportunities. This notion that the criminal is the lowest type of his class in society arises from a false conception of that class and of the people who compose it. According to my experience, they are mainly paupers; and they have been such so long, and are so obtuse and unaccustomed to anything better, even in the United States, that they seldom make any serious effort to get out of their low condition. Indeed, I think it can be said that the majority of them are practically as happy and contented in their squalor and poverty as is the aristocrat in his palace. In Whitechapel as well as in the worst parts of New York, for example, I have met entire families who could not be persuaded to exchange places with the rich, provided the exchange carried with it the duties and manners which wealth presupposes; they even pity the rich, and express wonder at their contentment 'in such a strait-jacket life.'

"In this same class, however, there are some who are born with ambitions, and who have energy enough to try to fulfil them. These break away from class conditions; but, unfortunately, the ladder of respectable business has no foothold in their environment. No one of their acquaintance has gone springing up its rounds in tempting promotions; and, altho the city missionary tells them that there are those who thus succeed, they will not believe him—or rather, they prefer to believe the, to them, far more probable stories of success which they read in *The Police Gazette* and *The Criminal Calendar*."

The criminals of this country, Mr. Flyntt says, are in the main not foreigners, but natives, and generally of Irish-American

parentage, despite the fact that Ireland itself is said to be the least criminal land of Europe. The age of the criminal class averages between twenty-five and thirty years, and the sex is predominantly masculine, in the proportion of twenty males to one female. One reason for this is that the women "take to the street instead of to crime," multitudes of them being impelled to this course, not by the pangs of hunger, but by the love for luxury. The majority, moreover, of Mr. Flyntt's shady acquaintances, particularly those under thirty, would, if well dressed, pass muster, so far as looks are concerned, in almost any class of society. After thirty they are very apt to acquire "prison features," due to frequent confinement. Retreating foreheads, lack of hair on the face, high cheek-bones, large lower jaws, projecting ears, etc., he has not found more noticeable in the criminal than in any other class; nor has he found them so prone to tattooing as reported. Their health, while at large, until prison has broken it down, is generally good, and their will-power is one of their strongest points. They are patient (out of prison), the tramps especially being able to endure pleasantly any amount of ruffling circumstances. Epilepsy is not, as supposed, common among them, tho it is a favorite trick to feign it. Nor has Mr. Flyntt found one clear case of insanity among criminals under twenty-five.

As to the effects of imprisonment, we are told that ten or fifteen years of confinement are enough to frighten the average criminal out of the life, and the reason given is an interesting one:

"The main reason that the criminal is afraid to go beyond the fifteen-year limit is that after that time, unless he be an uncommonly clever man, he is likely to get what is called 'the shivers'—one of the weirdest disorders to which the human body ever yields. Men describe it differently; but, by all accounts, the victim is possessed by such a terror of capture that each member of his body is in a constant tremor. Cases have even been known where, owing to a sudden attack of this shivering palsy, he has had to quit 'a job' that was almost finished. If these fits once become customary the man is unqualified for any kind of work ever after, and usually ends his life in the lowest class of the out-cast's world—the tomato-can tramp class."

Other points given by Mr. Flyntt that tell in favor of the general character of the criminals are as follows:

"So long as he remains in the business he thinks it only fair 'to stick up for it'; and he dislikes and will not associate with men who denounce it in public. This is his attitude toward the world at large. He puts on a bold front, and, as he himself says, 'nerves' the thing through. In the bosom of his 'hang-out,' however—and this is where we ought to study his ethics—he is a very different man. His code of morals there will compare favorably with that of any class of society; and there is no other class in which fair dealing is more seriously preached, and unfair dealing more severely condemned. The average criminal will stand by a fellow craftsman through thick and thin; and the only human being he will not tolerate is the one who turns traitor. The remorse of this traitor when brought to bay by his former brethren I have never seen exceeded anywhere. It was my fate some years ago, while living with tramps, to be lodged in a jail where one of the prisoners was a 'state's-evidence' witness. He had been released from prison on promising to tell tales on an old man—who was supposed to be the main culprit in the crime in question—and was lodging in the jail until the trial was over. Unfortunately for him, some of the prisoners had known him prior to this episode in his career; and they sent him to Coventry so completely that his life in the jail became unbearable and he almost died ere he could give his testimony. At night we could hear him groaning in his sleep as if he were undergoing the most fearful torture; and in the daytime he slunk around the corridors like a whipped dog. He lived to give his evidence in the trial, and was released from durance; but only a few days later he was found dead by his own hand. When the inmates of the jail heard of his fate they relented a little in their hatred of him; but the final opinion was that suicide was the best solution of the problem."

Moreover, the criminal's loyalty to his pals is not a matter of

mere self-interest, but is the manifestation at times of "an altruism that even a Tolstoi might admire." "To have to refuse the request of one of his fellows, or to do him an unkindness, is as much regretted by the criminal as it is by any one else; and I have never known him," says Mr. Flyntt, "to tell me a lie or to cheat me or to make fun of me behind my back." He continues:

"There are also some things in his relations with the outside world which, in his heart of hearts, he regrets and repents as much as he does the misdeeds in his own world. He always feels bad, for instance, when he takes money from the poor. It sometimes happens in his raids that he makes mistakes and gets into the wrong house, or has been deceived about the wealth of his victim; and if he discovers that he has robbed a poor man, or one who can not conveniently bear the loss, he is ashamed and never enjoys the plunder thus won. He is too near the poor, both in birth and sentiment, not to feel remorse for such an action; and I have known him to send back money after he has discovered that the person from whom he took it needed it worse than he.

"The taking of life is another deed that he regrets far more than he has been given credit for. One thinks of the criminal as the man who has no respect for life; as one who takes it without any twitchings of conscience; but this is not the general rule. The business criminal never takes a life, if he can help it; and when he does, he expects, in court, to receive the death penalty. Indeed, he believes, as a rule, that murder deserves capital punishment; and I have often heard him express wonder at the lightness of the penalties which murderers receive.

"At the 'hang-out,' a favorite topic of discussion is, which penalty is preferable—life-imprisonment or death. The consensus of opinion has generally run in favor of life-imprisonment, even tho there be no hope of pardon; but I have never heard a whimper against the justice of the death sentence."

PHYSICAL POWERS OF NAPOLEON.

EVIDENTLY Justice Walter Clark, of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, has made something of a study of Napoleon, and has not confined himself to the great Frenchman's military tactics and mental characteristics. He finds that Napoleon's physical development was no less wonderful than his mental powers, and to it he attributes much of Napoleon's success in war; and to the failure of his physical powers his defeat in Russia and at Waterloo and the loss of his Empire are attributed. The article is a very brief one (*Godey's Magazine*, February), and we quote it almost entire:

"Attention has been called to the great capacity of his [Napoleon's] skull, but another physiological fact, which probably had a most important bearing on his success, has passed almost unnoticed. His normal pulse, or heart beat, was only 40 to the minute. Doubtless this had a direct influence in enabling him to stand fatigue and to think coolly under the pressure of the most trying circumstances. It was noted that he rarely perspired, and, toiling along under the summer's sun through the desert in the Egyptian campaign, not a drop of perspiration was seen on his brow. Physiologists may, perhaps, be able to determine other effects upon his physical and mental activity from this abnormal slowness of circulation. His chest measurements were as phenomenal as that of his skull. Both were extraordinary for a man of his height. He wore a No. 8 hat, and his scalp was so tender that the hat had to be always very soft and padded. By the way, his height has been stated differently as 5 feet 3 inches and 5 feet 6 inches. The truth is, both are correct, for 5 feet 3 inches old French measurement is 5 feet 6 inches English measurement. A forgetfulness of this fact has caused the apparent conflict of statement.

"His marvelous good health was an indispensable factor in his success. It was noted by his teachers at school. It did not fail him once in his long and eventful career, till the close of the great battle of Borodino, under the walls of Moscow, in 1812, when, the victory being won, his marshal and generals were amazed to see him fail to crush the flying enemy.

"The Emperor seemed to be in a daze. In truth, three days and nights of constant watchfulness had for the first time over-

come that iron frame, and, his physical man failing, the empire of the world was then and there wrenched from his grasp.

"The fatal retreat from Russia was the inevitable consequence of these two or three hours of inactivity at the crisis and acme of his wonderful career.

"The next failure was after the battle of Dresden, in 1813, when a few hours of indisposition saved the allied army and probably cost him his empire. His physical deterioration lost him the Waterloo campaign. His mind was as bright as ever. His planning was never better, but there was a lack of vigor in execution, and the physical man, which had aided in so many successes, was wanting to him."

Some Recent "Briticisms."—Brander Matthews keeps on repaying in their own coin the British critics who have so much to say about Americanisms. Here are some of his latest collection of Briticisms as chronicled by him in *Modern Language Notes* (Baltimore).

The Daily News (London) speaks of an arbitration committee consisting of "one British member, one Venezuelan, and one co-opted [chosen conjointly]." Thomas Hardy speaks of certain buildings "having the *liny* [clearly outlined] distinctness of architectural drawings." Matthew Arnold wrote that London was not *liveable-in* on a certain occasion. The *London Chronicle* speaks of an explorer's having *negotiated* [traversed] a certain pass. The Fabian society has coined *proprietary* in antithesis to proletariat. Andrew Lang tells of persons who "*took in* [took or subscribed for] *The Edinburgh Review*." Matthew Arnold notes the *unwellness* of one "Dicky."

Professor Matthews speaks of the *London Bookman* as being "almost as ill-written as the *London Athenæum*," in either of which literary journals the collector of solecisms can almost always find his prey.

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AYLMER WEST, ONTARIO.

The Views of Doctor Temple.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

It is thirty-five years since Doctor Temple's article appeared in "Essays and Reviews." He is not now what he was then. It is well known that he fasts before receiving the holy communion and that he hears confessions. And Doctor Lightfoot in his book on St. Ignatius directly contradicts his earlier statements on the ministry. Many other men have changed in thirty-five years, e.g., Jesse Albert Locke.

A. Q. DAVIS.

AURORA, IND.

A Bogus Meteor.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

In a recent number of THE LITERARY DIGEST (January 30) I read an account of a meteor falling in a vacant lot on Rodney Avenue, in Albina, Ore. As a resident of that lively little suburb of Portland permit me to explain that that "meteor," i.e., stone, was heated in a stove in Mr. Turner's cigar-store, and the sulfurous odor obtained by an external application of sulfur.

The stone, still hot and smoking, was placed in the store-window that all might view the "heavenly visitor," while the perpetrators of the joke told of its wonderful descent.

The local papers mentioned the meteor, and a few days later corrected the report, explaining that it was a joke played by some young men upon others.

Hoping that this explanation will prevent the "meteor" from being recorded with scientific facts, I am one of your very interested readers,

PORTLAND, ORE.

ELLA K. DEARBORN, M.D.

Wasted Time.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

I wish to say a word in regard to THE DIGEST. It has been my privilege to have access to "—" and I have been a somewhat careful reader of the magazines, but for some reason I was not familiar with THE LITERARY DIGEST. Since you have been sending me your publication I have discovered that a great deal of my time has been wasted heretofore, and you may be sure that so long as the present high standard is kept up my subscription will continue. Not only do I find the articles a great relief to a man who is obliged to indulge in altogether too much reading, but the form of the magazine is such that it can be doubled up and put into the pocket to be read on the trains and street-cars. In this way I find that I can keep abreast of the times by filling in odd moments which would otherwise be put to no use, and with very little necessity for a reading of the original articles. In bringing the matter to my attention I consider that you have done me a service for which I extend my thanks.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

OSCAR T. TAYLOR.

BUSINESS SITUATION.

Bradstreet's reports more improvement in general trade for the week; the features being: "advances for Bessemer pig iron, steel billets, steel rails, some grades of wool, raw sugar, Indian corn, pork and lard, and for print-cloths, with an upward tendency for leather, together with a number of metal and textile industrial establishments which have reopened within the week, and an improvement in recent railway earnings. . . . There is a better demand for dry-goods, clothing, shoes, paint, lumber, and architectural iron, but material increases in request for general merchandise are more conspicuous at Chicago, St. Louis, and New York than elsewhere.

Dun's Review says: "A large increase in the iron and steel business, on account of sales covering eight to twelve months' production of the largest works, a better demand for woolen goods, and slightly better for cottons, a gain which may prove lasting in boots and shoes, slightly better prices for wheat, cotton, wool, and iron, and a money-market well adapted to encourage liberal purchases against future improvement in business, have rendered the past week more hopeful than any other since early in November. The heavy excess of merchandise exports over imports in January, the continuance of exchange rates showing that Europe is still largely indebted to this country on current account, and the prospect that Congress will adjourn without any disturbing action, all have their favorable influence upon the money-market, and upon future undertakings."

Activity in Iron and Steel.—"In nearly every branch the great iron and steel industry feels the upward impulse supplied by purchases of steel rails, said to be half a million tons each from the Illinois Steel Company and from the Carnegie Company, besides some from other companies, in part as low as \$15 per ton, about 100,000 to foreign purchasers at \$17 to \$18, but all recent sales at \$20 at Eastern and \$21 at Western mills. Nearly all the great railroads of the country have seized the opportunity to supply themselves with rails for one or two years' requirements. These enormous orders have advanced Bessemer pig at Pittsburg only 15 cents per ton, with Grey Forge a shade lower there, and no considerable change appears in finished products, altho plates are unchanged in price with good demand, and nails are held at recent prices. The Bar Association no longer controls anything, and iron bars are quoted at \$1.05 per 100 pounds while steel bars are quoted at 95 cents per 100 pounds. Structural forms are steady, altho 100,000 to 150,000 tons are said to be required in New York alone this year, and American tin plates are still selling at \$3.20, which is 70 cents less than the price for foreign."

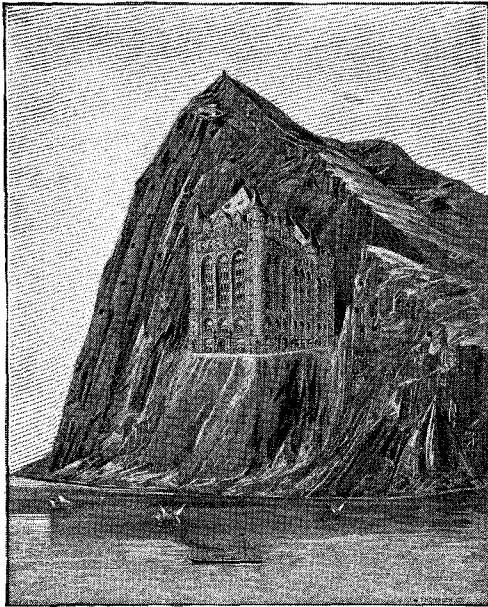
"The demand for rails since the break in quotations has resulted in sales of nearly 1,000,000 tons, of which 100,000 tons are for export. Not the least significant outcome is the demonstration of the ability of American steel-makers to successfully compete in the markets of the world."—*Bradstreet's*, February 20.

Business Failures.—It is encouraging that failures are running smaller than a year ago. Liabilities in two weeks past have been \$6,661,535, against \$7,680,393 last year, \$5,550,985 in 1895 and \$8,535,072 in 1894. Manufacturing have been \$3,504,422, against \$3,163,986 last year, and trading have been \$3,086,250, against \$3,842,053 last year, when there were also somewhat heavy failures in brokerage. Failures for the past week have been 303 in the United States, against 280 last year [*Bradstreet's* gives 325 against 276] and 58 in Canada, against 66 last year."—*Dun's Review*, February 20.

An Asthma Cure at Last.

It gives us great pleasure to announce the discovery of a positive cure for Asthma, in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanic product found on the Kongo River, West Africa. The cures wrought by it in the worst cases are really marvelous. Sufferers of twenty to fifty years' standing have been at once restored to health by the Kola Plant. Among others, many ministers of the gospel testify to its wonderful powers. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, West Va., was perhaps the worst case, and was cured by the Kola Plant after fifty years' suffering. Mr. Albert C. Lewis, Washington, D. C., editor of *The Farmer's Magazine*, gives similar testimony, as do many others. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, the Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. They only ask in return that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. You should surely try it, as it costs you nothing.

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Surplus, ...	1,449,057	4,034,116	2,585,059
Income, ...	6,703,631	14,158,445	7,454,813
Insurance in force, ...	157,560,342	320,453,483	162,893,141
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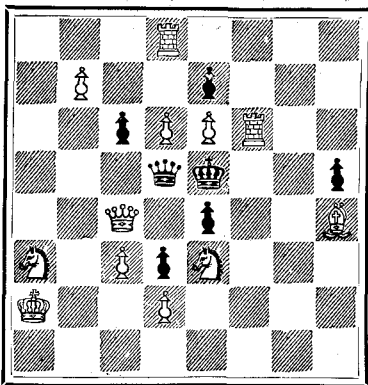
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 189.

Specially contributed to THE LITERARY DIGEST, by WALTER PULTITZER, Author of "Chess Harmonies."

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K on K 4; Q on Q 4; Ps on K 2 and 5, K R 4, Q 6, Q B 3.



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Solution of Problems.

No. 183.
1. K-K 2! Q-Q 2 Q-Q 3, mate
K-Kt 6 K-B 5
2. Q-Kt 4, mates
K-R 5

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia, who calls it "a beautiful composition"; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Ia., who thinks "the combination is shrewdly arranged"; H. J. Hutson, Fruitland, N. J., who writes: "This is a beautifully constructed problem"; T. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C., who says: "Frankenstein's criticism on this problem is certainly a just one"; G. A. Humpert, St. Louis, who is of the opinion that it is "at once simple, complex, and natural"; W. H. Cobb, Newton Center, Mass., who finds in it "a hundred wrong ways, but only one right way"; C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia., who believes it is "hard to beat with so limited amount of timber"; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla., who declares it to be "beautifully neat"; the Rev. H. W. Temple, Washington, Pa.; Chas. W. Cooper, Allegheny, Pa.; B. F. Petheram, Skaneateles, N. Y.; A. W. Dakin, Syracuse, N. Y.; J. B. Trowbridge, Hayward, Wis.; Walter Brown, Malden, Mass.; H. Ketcham, Vergennes, Vt.; T. J. Mathews, Merrill, Wis.; C. Mitschrich, Eureka, S. Dak.; the Rev. E. M. McMillan, Lebanon, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Streed, Cambridge, Ill.; Fred Matthey, Olathe, Kan.; J. W. E. Wheeling; the Rev. J. A. Youkins, Natrona, Pa.; Dr. Dixon, Sacramento, who says "It is a dandy."

The following persons were lucky in getting 184: A. W. Dakin, J. Davenport, Massillon, O.; A. C. Haskell, Columbia, S. C.; H. J. Hutson, Fruitland, N. Y.

When we published the beautiful problem 187, we did not know the name of the author. Mr. Otto Würzburg, Grand Rapids, Mich., has the honor of composing such a wonderful piece of work.

No. 181.

Through the kindness of one of our expert solvers we have found the missing piece in 181: Place Black Pawn on K R 7. Send in your solutions as soon as possible.

The Rev. E. M. McMillan was successful with 182.

Current Events.

Monday, February 15.

The Senate considers Senator Morgan's resolution to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in secret session. . . . The House passes the Sunday civil appropriation bill under suspension of the rules. . . . Representative Lorimer of Illinois introduces a resolution authorizing contract with the Illinois Steel Company for armor plate at \$200 per ton. . . . The United States Supreme

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In looking through one of the earlier volumes, our eyes lit, by a mere chance, on the statement that Aristotle's collection of books was "perhaps the first considerable private library in the world," and we could not but reflect on the unfailing love of books in man, since here were we, near nineteen hundred years after Christ, examining a work just come from the press to meet the very same desire for a collection of the world's best literature which, near four hundred years before Christ, moved Aristotle to the expenditure of a considerable fraction of a handsome inherited fortune.

And this pleasant bit of information, by the way, is typical of the whole work. Its biographical articles are not the dry statistical skeletons of the ordinary encyclopedia, but convey lively impressions of each subject. For instance, the paper on Aristotle, written by Prof. Thomas W. Davidson, an eminent Aristotelian scholar, recreates him into a man; one who, if you cut him, would bleed; one who led a life of real incidents, which it is a pleasure to read about. And then, when your interest in the man is thoroughly warm, and you feel that you would like to know something of his ideas, you have laid before you the best that survives to us of his writings, including the one poem of his we have—the noble "Hymn to Virtue." Thus in scarcely an hour's reading, and reading, too, of the most entertaining kind, we make an acquaintance quite sufficient for all the needs of general culture with one of the master-spirits of the world.

But Aristotle, however entertainingly presented, may seem to some readers pretty far away, and they would like assurance of something nearer. Well, then (and we choose quite at random), here is Thomas Bailey Aldrich, an American poet and story-teller of our own time, and of whom all know something. A sketch of but three pages gives us a complete, vivid impression of the man, and fixes for us his place and purpose in literature. Some thirty pages more supply us with excellent specimens of his stories and thirteen of his choicest poems in full. We doubt if one could gain any juster notion of the man and his writings than is here presented, but if one wished to make a particular study of Aldrich, and to come to know him down to his last expression, he could introduce himself in no otherwise so pleasantly and simply to this larger enterprise as by first reading the Aldrich section of the "Library of the World's Best Literature."

And this suggests a mention of one of the special values of the work. It affords a general prospect of the whole field, which is always a prerequisite of intelligent mastery of any special province, and for those who care to go beyond, it is the most agreeable and also the most trustworthy guide to each special province, and prepares the way to most intelligently and thoroughly cover it. Consequently it is just as useful to the most exacting student of books as to those who read for entertainment, or to acquire general literary culture.

In illustration of the infinite variety of the Library, its provision for every taste and mood, let us make a rapid survey of the contents of only a single portion of the work. In the first volume, only a part of the letter "A" is covered, but see what a sweep and multifariousness that one volume presents! It opens with a delightful account of the historic lovers Abélard and Heloise, with typical letters of each, and the famous "Vesper Hymn" of Abélard. Here we are making an acquaintance with the close of the eleventh and the opening of the twelfth century. The very next subject, Edmond About, the author of so many well-known tales, transports us to the latter half of the nineteenth century. Then follows a chapter on the general subject of Accadian-Babylonian and Assyrian literature, with an ac-

count of the most recent discoveries at Babylon, the names of individual authors in this far-off age being quite lost. This is the oldest literature thus far recovered, and an older will probably never be found. It is inscribed mainly on tablets which it has taken years of excavation to discover and years of scholarship to decipher and translate. The best of it is given here, translated especially for the Library, into admirable English.

The turn of a leaf brings us back from old, half-buried Assyria to new America, presented in the person of one of its noblest and most gifted dames, Abigail Adams. Along with an interesting sketch of Mrs. Adams's life and character, by Lucia Gilbert Runkle, is given a generous selection from those enduring letters she wrote to her husband and other members of her family. Other Adamses follow, for it has been a great name in oratory and political literature; Henry, the well-known American historian; John, the second President of the United States, and John Quincy, the sixth President of the United States. Finally, we have Sarah Flower Adams, who wrote "Nearer, my God, to Thee."

Then we come to Addison, from whose pen language flowed in its freest and most genial phrases. Hamilton Wright Mabie has contributed a delightful article on this author and the best of his immortal essays follow; Sir Roger de Coverly at the play; the Essay on Fans, and so on.

Then come Æschines, the famous orator of the Greeks, and Æschylus, the greatest of the Greek tragic poets; Agassiz, our greatest naturalist, is amply exhibited, and so are Grace Aguilar, William Harrison Ainsworth, Mark Akenside, Louisa M. Alcott, Henry M. Alden, Alfonso the Wise, Alfred the Great, James Lane Allen, the laureate of the "Blue Grass" region, and Hans Christian Andersen, with the best each one has written.

We have named but a portion of the subjects in the first volume; the second is even more interesting, and deals with such subjects as Edwin Arnold, Matthew Arnold, the Arthurian Legends (whence Tennyson drew the stories for the "Idyls of the King," and Wagner the plot of his great opera, "Tristan and Isolde"), Audubon, the American ornithologist, Auerbach, the German novelist, Jane Austen, Francis Bacon, and many others.

In short, all climes all times have been levied on for the contents of these volumes. "A good book," Milton said, "is the precious life-blood of a master-spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life." We have here this vital fluid distilled down to its last potency, so that the full virtue of all good books beyond number has been concentrated into thirty volumes.

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The first edition is, of course, the most desirable because printed from the new, fresh plates. Usually a higher price is charged, but the publishers of the Library have actually reduced the price, and are making a special offer, so as to place a few sets in each community for inspection. At the figure put upon these special sets, the buyer saves nearly half the list-price, besides having the privilege of easy monthly payments. But it is possible to take advantage of this price through the Harper's Weekly Club only, which offers a limited number of sets, to introduce and advertise the work. The Club now forming closes in March, when the price will be advanced.

In order that readers of THE LITERARY DIGEST, who so desire, may make sure of the work at the introductory price, we have again reserved fifty of these special sets, which will go to the first who apply, mentioning this magazine. Prompt application for sample pages (and special prices) should therefore be made to Harper's Weekly Club, 91 Fifth Avenue, New York.



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Court sustains the act of 1887 forfeiting the land grant of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company; the case of the filibuster steamer *Three Friends* is argued. . . . Wm. P. St. John, ex-president of the Mercantile National Bank, and treasurer of the Bryan Democratic National committee, dies in New York. . . . William Lampton Leroy, New York, dies, leaving a bequest of about \$1,000,000 to Yale.

The Greek "corps of occupation," which sailed from Piræus, lands in Crete near Canea; the warships of the powers landed strong detachments at Retimo, Heraklion, and Canea; it is reported that Crete will be made autonomous under the joint rule of the powers. . . . United States Senator Wolcott arrives in Berlin. . . . Señor de Lome, Spanish Minister at Washington, informs Spanish authorities that President Cleveland, Secretary Olney, and others, consider the Cuban reform decree ample.

Tuesday, February 16.

In the Senate Mr. Chandler speaks for the double monetary standard; the bankruptcy bill is taken up. . . . The House transacts miscellaneous business; sustains the President's veto of a pension bill. . . . The four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Philip Melancthon is observed by many churches. . . . The Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association meets in Indianapolis. . . . The Rev. John N. Murdock, honorary secretary of the American Baptist Missionary Union, dies at Clifton Springs, N. Y.

The Greeks are reported to have captured 400 Mussulmans at Fort Aghia; another Greek regiment has sailed for Crete; Turkey is preparing six vessels of war for sea service. . . . Cecil Rhodes testifies before a parliamentary committee regarding the Transvaal raid.

Wednesday, February 17.

In the Senate the final conference report on the bill to restrict immigration is adopted by a vote of 34 to 31; the bill now goes to the President. . . . In the House a stand in favor of economy in pension legislation is taken; the conference report on the legislative appropriation bill is adopted; the election contest from the Tenth Kentucky district is discussed. . . . The New York and American Biscuit companies are cutting prices. . . . Conventions: Congress of Mothers, Washington; American Institute of

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Mining Engineers, Chicago; American Newspaper Association, New York. . . . W. J. Bryan addresses a joint session of the Nebraska legislature on "Good Government."

The commander of the foreign naval forces at Crete warns Prince George, in command of the Greek fleet, that an attack on Cretan towns means an attack on the powers; the Greek commander in Crete is instructed to abstain from a conflict with the forces of the powers. . . . Sharp fighting, with severe losses to both Spaniards and rebels, is reported from Cuba. . . . It is rumored in Madrid that a ministerial crisis is impending and that Sagasta will succeed Prime Minister Canovas. . . . The German steamer *Baltimore* is believed to have foundered at sea.

Thursday, February 18.

The Senate considers the arbitration treaty, confirms several nominations, and passes a bill providing for a new postal card system. . . . The House seats Mr. Hopkins, Republican contestant tenth Kentucky district. . . . United States Senator James H. Kyle (Pop.) is re-elected from South Dakota. . . . Postmaster-General Wilson accepts the presidency of Washington and Lee University. . . . Secretary Herbert signs an order to abolish the Naval Steel Board. . . . Six members of the Spicer family are found murdered, probably by drunken Indians, in their house near Winona, No. Dak.

Two thousand Moslems are reported massacred at Sitia, in the island of Crete; Turkish and Grecian troops are steadily concentrating on the Thessaly frontier, and a serious collision is imminent; a Turkish force is said to have embarked at Constantinople for Crete. . . . It is reported that Dr. Zertucha, who was alleged to have betrayed General Maceo, has been killed by Cuban avengers; more fighting is reported in the province of Pinar del Rio. . . . John Burns attacks William Waldorf Astor in the House of Commons.

Friday, February 19.

The Senate discusses the arbitration treaty for seven and one-half hours; refuses to postpone consideration until after March 4. . . . The House takes up the deficiency appropriation bill. . . . McKinley's offer of a cabinet portfolio to James A. Gary, of Maryland, is accepted. . . . A reduction of ten per cent. in miners' wages is reported from the ore mines at Iron Mountain, Mich. . . . Governor Holcomb of Nebraska asks for an investigation of shortages in the state treasury. . . . It is reported that the Southern Pacific Railroad will pay \$150,000 to the state of Kentucky for its charter.

Fighting between Christians and Moslems in Crete continues; Lord Salisbury sends a note to the powers favoring the granting of autonomy to Crete; British warships prevent the landing of Greek troops on the island. . . . The police make several arrests in Havana for an alleged plot of anarchists. . . . W. Wallace, an Oxford professor, is killed by a fall from his bicycle. . . . A statue of St. Patrick, containing bones of the saint, a present from the Pope to a Montreal church, reaches Montreal. . . . The Canadian cabinet fixes March 25 for the opening of Parliament.

[The record closes at this date on account of going to press earlier than usual.]

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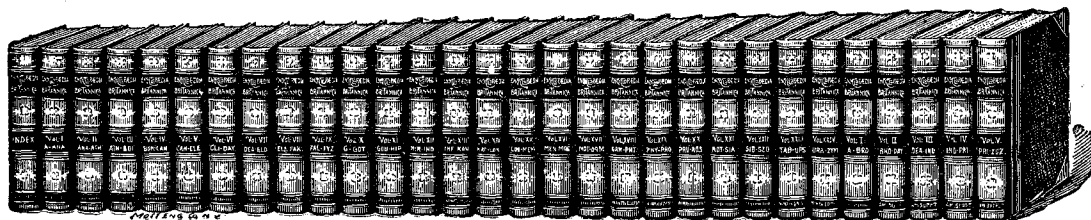
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